

反戦

ANTI-WAR

firstly, sorry it's taking so long for us to get replies off to you, we are now receiving around 400 letters a week and the job of keeping up with answering them is becoming really hard. we do not want to resort to simply sending out newsheets, or forming a fan club so that someone else has to do the dirty work, we want to go on writing back to people, so please understand why it has taken so long for this to get back to you.

since our last tour in the south it has become increasingly hard for us to get gigs together, it seems that the police and local councils are working some kind of veto on us which is meaning that our gigs are constantly being cancelled, over half of our present tour of the home counties has been called off, shops that sell our records are having the same problems of police action, if you hear of any of this sort of crap going on in your area please let us know.

we have just finished recording a new single, nagasaki nightmare, big a, little a, which we hope to release by mid october, also due for release are a poison girls album, the garage bands compilation called 'bullshit detector' and a reissue of feeding of the five thousand with the original asylum back on it.

a lot of people ask about the symbol, basically it is a mixture of symbols of oppression, the church, the state, the family, into which a serpent is curled. the serpent will devour its own tail. evil destroys evil, power corrupts, power destroys itself.

it is important to us to point out that the anarchy center IS NOT OURS, we are giving money to a group of people who are setting it up, we have very little control over what may happen there, although we have been promised that there will be a gigging facility etc. there has been complaints that the centre intends to charge high membership fees, although membership for life is seemingly expensive it will not mean that those who can not afford it will be excluded from activities that go on there, it is simply another way in which the centre can get enough money together to open up.

we are arranging a tour of the north for october, already the cancellations have started so we will not be announcing definite dates until nearer the time. in november we are recording a 12inch 45 featuring eve on vocals and in december we are recording an album.

please don't imagine that we are pleased about the commercialisation of crass, the T shirts armbands etc. etc. have got nothing to do with us. we still give away badges and believe that it's better to do things yourself, making stencils is really easy and if you use car spray you can decorate your own clothes with your own designs. punk is meant to be about doing it YOUR OWN way, give the rip off merchants a big V sign.

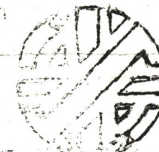
we are trying our best to see that people sell our records for the right price but there is not a lot that we can do, the best thing is simply not to buy from places that charge too much and to let everyone know that that shop is a rip off.

the sounds article about us was a pile of shit, we knew nothing about it until we saw it, the best way of dealing with that sort of rubbish is to ignore it.

anarchy/peace/freedom/love.

CRASS

some of the information on the other side is out of date, here's an updated version. chappaquiddick bridge, the poison girls album is now out, so is the new pressing of feeding of the 5000, bullshit detector (the garage tapes compilation) will be out mid-november, our new single, which is a bit delayed, nagasaki nightmare/big a little a will be out a week before december, the poison girls single will be out at the beginning of december. we are recording until the end of the year and gigging where possible. we're recording a single of flux of pink indians (ex epileptics) in about two weeks time. we're setting up gigs for the beginning of the new year at the moment. we hope not to play commercial clubs anymore, so if you know anywhere we can play which is not a commercial rip-off let us know. we're finding it impossible to set up a gig in london, if you know of anyplace get in touch. PLEASE FORGIVE THE DELAY IN THE MAIL, WE'RE REALLY BOGGED DOWN WITH IT, HAPPY NEW YEAR!



DEAR JOHN.

THANKS FOR YOUR LETTER. HERE ARE THE BADGES AND INFORMATION YOU ASKED FOR.

What makes us different ?

Political Parties, acting as representatives of 'the masses', 'the community', 'the individual' etc., are part of the problem rather than the solution to alienation in work and consumption, bureaucracy and lack of democracy.

Elections and parliamentary games do not attract libertarian activity.

We alone question the necessity for a State apparatus - this separates us from authoritarian 'socialists' who advocate a "workers' State".

Increasingly in the 'advanced' phase of capitalism, working people come into conflict with State institutions defending exploitation.

The libertarian attitude to revolution means breaking down in practice divisions between struggles based in housing estates, factories etc..

We see the struggles of working people as happening everyday. When society is divided up on class lines reinforced by the power of the State, for working people in their communities as well as factories to try and exert some degree of control and autonomy this is what social revolution is all about. Not a change of elites or a new 'leadership' but the overthrow both mentally and physically of those acting on 'our' behalf.

Generalised self-management is the corner-stone of socialism & freedom.

Our activity.

Our opposition to the Party form of political organisation demonstrates our hostility to bureaucratic channels of control and people who see themselves as 'radical' or 'revolutionary' but fail to see the equation of the State and centralised authority with social relations of production and life in general that are capitalist in content.

This means that our approach to politics is different and this is evident in the way we organise. Co-ordination between autonomous groups federating at various levels is the revolutionary alternative. No central authority. No intellectual elite. No periphery role for women. No minor position for struggles outside the factory gates such as housing (e.g. squatting and withholding rent).

Contacts exist with various libertarian groups throughout the capitalist 'universe', while in Scotland the Scottish Libertarian Federation is the focus for co-ordination and mutual aid.

Our present involvement in Glasgow as a whole extends to the creation of an alternative press designed to aid working people in struggle (the first issue should be out in November); extending the activity of the Glasgow Squatters Union and related housing struggles; an industrial network; support for the Troops Out Movement and Women in Action, although this depends on what they do; solidarity work for comrades in other countries facing police persecution and engaged in armed struggle (West Germany and Spain recently); holding Public Meetings with Films and speakers - these take the form of a 'libertarian circle' of participants rather than a passive audience situation; 'cultural sabotage'; community action wherever we are based. Weekly meetings on Sunday nights at 7.30 decide on our priorities and plan of action.

The L.S.G. at Strathclyde is a focus for libertarians who find themselves there. Our stress in student affairs is on mass democracy and also creating action committees in the various schools of study designed to challenge the content of courses, staff-student relations etc.. You won't find us standing for Union president or similar carve-ups. The L.S.G. is anarchist; Libertarian socialism equates the State with oppression. The struggle for a free society means one that is state-less - another name for this is anarchy.

Forthcoming meetings include :-

Maurice Brinton of Solidarity on "The Russian Revolution & Leninism".
Miguel Garcia, a veteran anarchist from Spain - on the situation in Spain.

a libertarian socialist from Chile, now exiled in Liverpool.
A film on the rent strike in Kirby (2 of which was shown on BBC2 in September). Plus the possible showing of a film by Corby anarchists.

(for further information - contact L.S.G., 90 JohnSt., or via tanny).

QM AND FELLOW TRAVELLERS' FESTIVAL

Saturday January 26th - 11a.m. Midnight.

Queen Margaret Union, Glasgow University

FESTIVAL DAY

All day Saturday 11a.m. - Midnight - Inclusive ticket price £1

Theatre: The General Will doing Pub Shows and 'The Prison Show'
Mr. Spooners Magic Theatre and their Bounce-co-theque

Films: Orson Welles' 'Citizen Kane'; Polanski's 'Repulsion';
Cuban film 'Memories of Underdevelopment'
'Angela Davis - Portrait of a Revolutionary'
'The Woman's Film'

Folk: Matt McGinn; Verker Ikki; Gaberlunzie; Charrington O'Brien

Poetry: Tom McGrath; Eddie Morgan; Mary McNally; Marcella Evaristi; & others

Exhibitions: Paintings by children of Drumchapel Community Centre
Paintings by Fine Art Society G.U.
Photographic Exhibition of 'Derelict Glasgow'

Music: Blue Grass with Old Hickory
Jazz with Elvin Ridge
Blues with Smoke Stack Lightning
Rock with Redwood, Asylum
AND Colin Blunstone

Also in the week preceding the Festival, from Tuesday 22nd to Friday 26th
lunchtime events daily in Q.M. Union and around the University, free.

Tickets for Festival Day available from your local SRC and Q.M. Union.

Admission by current student card only.

VOTE NOBODY !

"WHAT CAN AN
ABSTENTIONIST CAMPAIGN
ACHIEVE?"

1ST MEETING MONDAY
19TH FEBRUARY, 7.30

FRYPS OFFICE, 146
HOLLAND ST. (NEXT TO
'HIS NIBS', OFF BATH ST.)

ALL LIBERTARIANS
INVITED.

DON'T VOTE

CAMPAIGN 1979

The DON'T VOTE campaign is advising people not to WASTE their vote by placing it on a ballot paper . Alternatively, if you want to put a cross, score out all the politicians names & insert your own.

The campaign is presenting several candidates in the CATHCART constituency. TWEEDLE DEE of Clincart Rd. & TWEEDLE DUM of Glenacre Drive are standing to cancel each other out. Meanwhile, CAPTAIN CLEAN is spearheading a move to "Put Rubbish Firmly in its Place" & consign all politicians to the dustbin.

Yes, at last we have a political movement that asks us to be honest, not the politicians & what THEY want, but what WE want ourselves.

Certainly our campaign is intended to act as a relief from the boring, hypocritical rhetoric of politiciand, BUT we are not totally negative.

The serious side to our politics is the anarchist belief that what is needed is a total restructuring of our society, which includes ABOLISHING centralised, INDIRECT democracy (which lasts for 5 seconds every 5 years). We believe that people can and should rule their own lives through a system of direct democracy based on neighbourhood and factory assemblies.

We invite you to this first session of this peoples parliament in the shopping centre precinct in Castlemilk at 11am to report on a refreshing development in the recent political scene.

every vote a
wasted vote !

Daily Rubbish

SCOTLAND'S DAYLIGHT ROBBERY

DAZ or OMO

Until May 3rd the various Political Parties will be out touting for votes, peddling their wares, trying to sell the idea that their Party is better for "Britain", and by implication, better for you.

The only difference between this type of competition and that between Daz and Omo,

CHOOSE YOUR POISON

or B.P. & Esso is that the Politicians themselves only allow you such "a choice" every couple of years whereas you choose at the Supermarket everyday. All Parties are interested in strong Government over the people, in camouflaging the power of Big Business, the State bureaucracy (local and National), in encouraging dependency.

BEYOND THE FRINGE

Outside the "mainstream" of politics exist the so-called Right and Left. Nazis such as the National Front promoting racial scapegoats. Communists sitting on the coat-tails of Labour to strengthen State control over the "commanding heights" of the economy. Trotskyites such as Socialist Unity or the W.R.P. or S.W.P. anxious to "seize power"

THE FIGHT TO LIVE

for themselves on the backs of the so-called "masses".

For such Political Parties & Groups politics is the rhetoric they dish out in their Manifestos. It has little to do with the everyday situation of working people. The fight to control the speed of production, conditions of work, local control over decision making in relation to houses, nurseries, social amenities, the rebellion against Authority & bureaucracy which stifles human freedom, A SENSE OF PURPOSE WHICH COMES OF THE ABILITY TO DIRECTLY

NOBODY PROMISES!

CONTROL THE COMMUNITIES WE LIVE IN.

Nobody can promise or give away real control over our everyday life, WE CAN ONLY TAKE

PUT YOUR X HERE

LABOUR	A/
COMMUNIST	O
S.N.P.	B
CONSERVATIVE	O
SOCIALIST UNITY	n
LIBERAL	y
NATIONAL FRONT	

it. By organising independently of Party influence, without leaders and with no people holding on to knowledge to keep others dependent we can promise OURSELVES a meaningful future. Not "participation" but **NO MORE MASTERS** direct control.

The anger & frustration which we too often turn inwardly on ourselves can be used to put the screws on rulers for a change. Giving this Election a miss is only a small beginning. As tenants, workers, claimants, schoolkids, you name it, we can get together and take direct action against employers, councils, S.S. offices schools and authorities in general.

REVOLUTION OF EVERYDAY LIFE

A short leaflet, a snappy sticker, a bit of fun doing street theatre only gives you a small idea of what ANARCHY is all about. If your'e fed up being pushed around by people in Authority, with control over economic resources **GET IN TOUCH:-**

Box GPP/146 Holland St., Glasgow

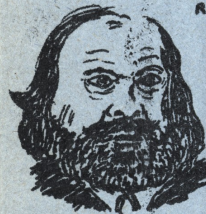
nobody makes sense!

A

ARE YOU SUFFERING FROM BALLOTITIS?

PROF. EMBA KUNIN EXPLAINS —

"THE CURRENT EPIDEMIC NOW POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED AS BALLOTITIS, A PSYCHOSOMATIC ILLNESS INDUCED BY MASS INDOCTRINATION, IS KNOWN TO CAUSE AN INABILITY TO THINK OR ACT INDEPENDENTLY OF BALLOT-RELATED STIMULI. (i.e. T.V., NEWSPAPERS, POSTERS etc.). A NEED TO FEEL 'REPRESENTED' AND THE DUAL ILLUSION OF 'DUTY' AND 'PARTICIPATION' ALSO RESULT."



"THE SYMPTOMS ARE CLEAR: HOUSEWIVES ARE HEARD TO MUTTER IN SHOPPING CENTRES - 'YES, TAXES CUT, BUT WHO'S GOING TO PAY?'"

"DOCKERS ARE SEEN LEAPING TO THEIR FEET IN PUBS, SCREAMING - 'TORIES SET PAY POSERS!' AND 'CLAMP DOWN ON STATE SPENDING!'"

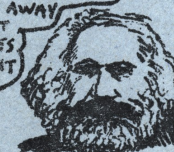
"TRAGICALLY, THE MOST SERIOUS INDICATION OF CHRONIC BALLOTITIS IS REVEALED WHEN, ON A DAY EXPRESSLY FIXED FOR THIS PURPOSE BY INTERESTED PARTIES, MILLIONS OF SEEMINGLY NORMAL PEOPLE RUSH, LEMMING-LIKE, TO POLLING PLACES ALL OVER THE COUNTRY, AND, BY PLACING A CROSS AGAINST A NAME, IRRATIONALLY SIGN AWAY CONTROL OF THEIR LIVES FOR ANYTHING UP TO FIVE YEARS."



WHAT THE EXPERTS SAY

DR. MARX:

A NORMAL PHASE WE ALL GO THROUGH SOMETIME, GIVEN THE PROPER LEADERSHIP, THE COMPLAINT SHOULD WITHER AWAY UNTIL IT BECOMES IRRELEVANT

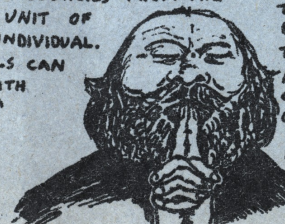


DR. CALLAGHAN, DR. THATCHER AND THE WESTMINSTER PSYCHO-THERAPISTS ASSOCIATION:

UMM... A DIFFICULT ONE, THIS. MY ADVICE IS TO WORK HARD, PAY YOUR TAXES AND VOTE FOR ME



"THE CURE OBVIOUSLY LIES WITH THE PATIENTS THEMSELVES. I WOULD SUGGEST THEY CONSIDER SELF-MEDICATION. THE FIRST STEP, OF COURSE, BEING TOTAL ABSTENTION FROM THE VOTE. RESISTANCE, THEN, IS BUILT UP SUFFICIENTLY TO CREATE LOCAL ANTI-POLLS OR 'COUNCILS' FROM THE FUNDAMENTAL UNIT OF SOCIETY - THE INDIVIDUAL. THESE COUNCILS CAN BE LINKED WITH OTHERS —"



"—BY THE USE OF DELEGATES, RESPONSIBLE ONLY TO THEIR OWN COUNCILS, WHO IN TURN CAN BE LINKED WITH REGIONAL OR BROADER-BASED COUNCILS. TO AVOID RELAPSE, IT SHOULD BE BORNE IN MIND THAT THE SOLE FUNCTION OF ALL DELEGATES IS TO COMMUNICATE THE VIEWS OF THOSE THEY REPRESENT. THEY CAN BE RECALLED AT ANY TIME SHOULD THEY FAIL TO DO SO ADEQUATELY"

"SO, WITH TIME AND EFFORT, THE INDIVIDUAL DISCOVERS A DORMANT CAPACITY TO FULFIL HIS OR HER OWN POTENTIAL AND MAKE DREAMS A LIVING REALITY."



"YES, THE IMPOSSIBLE CAN BE POSSIBLE! WIPE OUT BALLOTITIS!"

oh no!

IT'S PARTY TIME again!

ROLL UP, ROLL UP!! THE GRAND ELECTORAL CIRCUS IS ON THE ROAD!!
THRILL TO THE WEIRD AND WONDERFUL TALES OF MAGICAL MAGGIE AND JUGGLER
JIM AS THEY TELL OF THE FABULOUS LAND OF MILK AND HONEY, JUST ROUND
THE CORNER - IF ONLY WE VOTE FOR THEM..

WE MUST KNOW BY NOW THAT ALL POLITICIANS' PROMISES ARE WORTHLESS.
FOR FIVE YEARS THE LABOUR GOVERNMENT, WITH LOYAL SUPPORT FROM THE TRADE
UNION BUREAUCRATS, HAVE HELD DOWN OUR WAGES, CUT PUBLIC SERVICES AND
ALLOWED UNEMPLOYMENT TO SOAR. THE TORIES WANT TO ATTACK WORKING PEOPLES'
RIGHT TO ORGANISE AND TO SLASH PUBLIC SERVICES EVEN MORE VICIOUSLY.
AS FOR THE SNP, WHAT BENEFIT IS IT TO US TO HAVE A DISTRIBUTION OF POWER
TO BUSINESSMEN, M.P.S AND BUEAUCRATS IN EDINBURGH RATHER THAN LONDON!
THERE'S OTHER PARTIES STANDING - COMMUNISTS, LIBERALS, NATIONAL FRONT
AND SO ON - BUT ALL THE PARTIES ARE UNITED ON ONE VITAL POINT - THEY
ALL WANT POWER FOR THEMSELVES, AND TO BECOME PART OF THE RULING ELITE.

POLITICS TO US IS SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERANT FROM VOTING FOR
LEADERS TO DO OUR THINKING FOR US. REAL POLITICS IS WHAT HAPPENS EVERY
DAY IN OUR LIVES. LIKE WHEN WORKERS REJECT THE AUTHORITY OF THE BOSS
AND THE UNION BUREAUCRATS AND TAKE CONTROL OF STRIKES FOR BETTER CON-
DITIONS AND LIVING STANDARDS. LIKE WHEN TENANTS FIGHT FOR BETTER HOUSING,
AND WHEN WOMEN AND GAYS FIGHT DISCRIMINATION AND OPPRESSION.

IF SUCH STRUGGLES GREW IN STRENGTH AND UNITY, EVENTUALLY WE COULD
TRANSFORM THE WHOLE SYSTEM, AND CONSIGN ALL M.P.S, BUSINESSMEN AND
BUREAUCRATS TO THE DUSTBINS OF HISTORY. DECISION-MAKING WOULD BE IN THE
HANDS OF US ALL, IN OUR LOCAL AREAS AND AT WORK. ANYONE ELECTED TO A
POSITION OF RESPONSABILITY WOULD BE MANDATED TO FOLLOW THE POLICY DE-
CIDED BY ALL, AND WOULD BE RECALLABLE AT ANY TIME. THEN, AS THE EARLY
SOCIALIST WILLIAM MORRIS PROPHESED, THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT COULD
AT LAST SERVE A USEFUL PURPOSE -AS A DUNG STORE.

what politicians mean...

More and bigger factories; more and
worse pollution. More useless and
boring jobs; more shoddy and unnecessary
products. More and wider roads; more
wrecked communities; more people killed.
More poverty in the Third World; more
resources exhausted. More money for some;
more misery for all.

Always being ready for war against for-
eign countries and against rebels at
home. Preparing us for war against the
'enemy within' by 'policing operations'
such as in Northern Ireland and at
Heathrow. Supporting smelly little dic-
tatorships around the world; selling
weapons to them.

Making us fight for what is rightfully
ours - the means to live. Paying off
the old, the chronically sick and the
unemployed with a pittance; writing them
off as useless when they've served their
bosses' purposes and have lost their
bargaining power. Degrading unsupported
mothers, snooping on their sex lives
and making them feel like parasites.

More hospitals, more pills, more spare-
part surgery; not more wholesome food,
better living conditions, fresher air.
Patching up a diseased society, not
creating a healthy one. Continuing to
stick the mentally ill away in institu-
tions.

This leaflet is produced by Aberdeen Libertarian Socialists, c/o 163 King St.
If you stick this in your window or on your door it might keep the canvassers away!



CON TIME X



YES IT'S CON TIME AGAIN.
THE TIME WHEN YOU, THE ORDINARY MAN/WOMAN
IN THE STREET CAN INFLUENCE AFFAIRS OF
STATE (OR THE STATE OF AFFAIRS) BY GIVING
YOUR POWER AWAY!

THIS IS DONE BY THE SIMPLE, PAINLESS
OPERATION KNOWN AS VOTING.
THROUGH VOTING WE SURRENDER THE
POWER OVER OUR LIVES TO POLITICAL
ANIMALS WHO ARE ONLY TOO WILLING
TO USE AND ABUSE US!

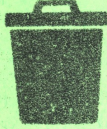
THE ANSWER?

BY ORGANISING INDEPENDENTLY
OF PARTY INFLUENCE, WITHOUT LEADERS
AND WITH NO PEOPLE HOLDING ON TO
KNOWLEDGE TO KEEP OTHERS DEPENDENT,
WE CAN PROMISE OURSELVES A MEANINGFUL
FUTURE — NOT "PARTICIPATION" BUT DIRECT
CONTROL.

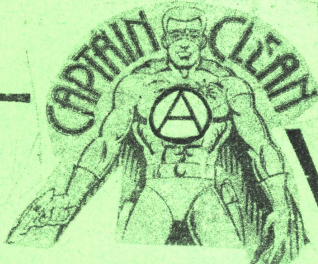
DONT GIVE THE POLITICIANS YOUR VOTE!



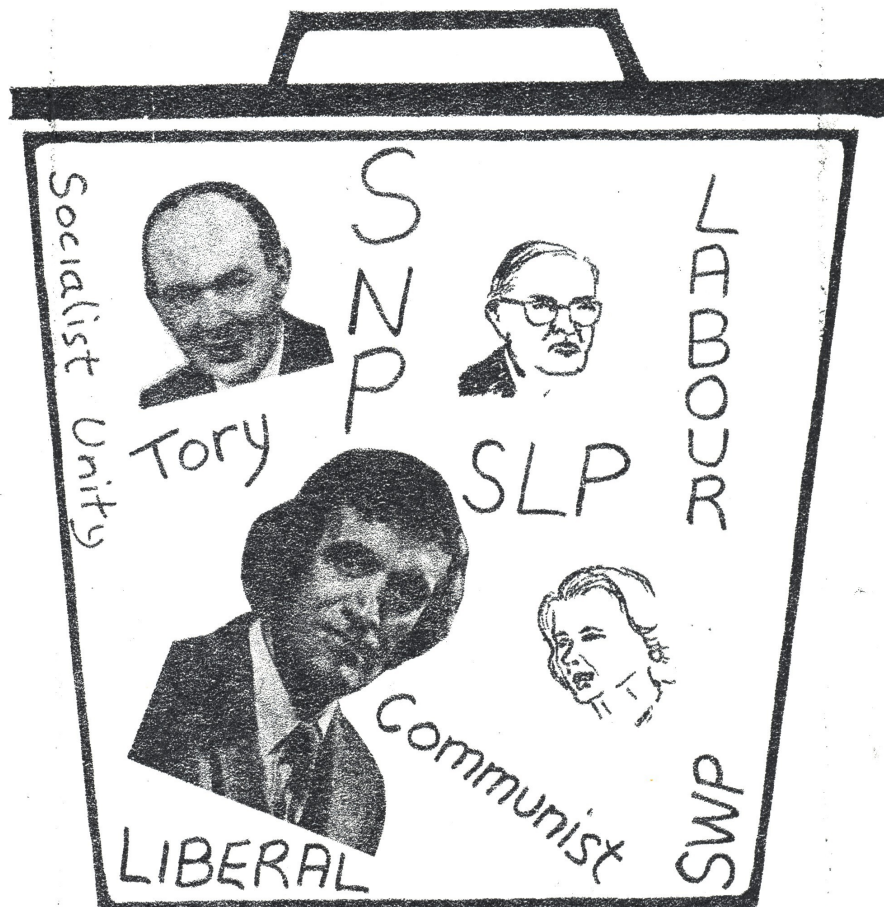
DON'T VOTE!

 **Put rubbish
firmly in its place.**



DON'T  **VOTE**

 **Put rubbish
firmly in its place.**



Put rubbish firmly in its place. 

 City of Glasgow Anarchist Department of Cleansing

**TURN
PARLIAMENT
INTO A
DUNG STORE!**



THE KATE SHARPLEY LIBRARY

December 1992

PRESS RELEASE

The Kate Sharpley Library is named in honour of an anarchist militant who was involved in the anti-war struggle of 1914 - 1918. The Library has been very busy recently and hopefully this press release will help inform you what's going on.

The Library exists as an archival centre covering the broad class struggle anarchist tradition and hopefully in the near future we will be able to allow access to the mass of documentation available. The library is made up several thousand pamphlets, books, newspapers, journals, posters, unpublished manuscript etc, in over twenty languages. We have a large collection of international anarcho-sydicalist material and also sizeable collection of libertarian socialist and council communist material which we are keen to extend. This however only briefly indicates what is contained within the archive. We are interested in trial documentation and lastly we are very short of videos, although we know many relevant videos have and do exist. Please send any documentation etc or suggestions for future publications to the K.S.L.

The K.S.L. has as a comprehensive publications programme. To date we have published six pamphlets (listed below) and we hope to publish at least some the following in the next three months.

THE UNSUNG STRUGGLE (NO 2) - THE SPANISH RESISTANCE 1939-51;
JOHN CREAGHE OF SHEFFIELD AND BUENOS AIRES; RACE AND CLASS BY BRIXTON DAM;
THE SYNDICALIST HORSE TRANSPORT UNION OF EAST LONDON;
MAKHNO'S VISIT TO THE KREMLIN.

The KSL exists to collate, research and publicise the history of our movement which has been distorted in the past.

We think what we are doing is necessary. We hope you do too. Help support the KSL. It is sometimes said that if you don't learn from history you repeat the same mistakes. But it is also true that if you are taught your own history by outside influences you are doomed to make the mistakes they want you too.

All our pamphlets are inexpensive and quickly produced. In operating this way we hope to bring out up to 20 pamphlets by April 1993. We do need your help though. To enhance the collection we appeal to all anarchist groups/organisations and publications to add our name to their mailing lists. We ask all comrades and friends to donate all suitable material to the library. Please buy / sell / donate (including money) to the K.S.L. and publicise the pamphlets we have for sale. If you would like to take bulk orders please contact us directly.

AVAILABLE NOW!

RECOLLECTIONS OF ANARCHISTS IN THE PAST Personal Reminiscences of British Anarchists 1883-1939 by George Cores

FIRST FLIGHT: The Origins of Anarcho-Syndicalism in Britain by Albert Meltzer

LIFE IN ENGLISH PRISONS (ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO) by David Nicoll

THE UNSUNG STRUGGLE: The plot to assassinate Franco from the air, 1948, by Antonio Tellez

SYNDICALISM IN ACTION : The Italian Glass Blowers Takeover of 1910

Wilf McCartney's DARE TO BE A DANIEL! The life and struggle of an agitator and the fight to free the catering slaves in London's West End. A history of one of Britain's earliest Syndicalist Unions.

All £1 each (inc. UK postage) Please send £2 international money order outside the UK

ALSO AVAILABLE

KSL BULLETIN (no:1/2/3) Notes on the Kate Sharpley Library and research into real anarchism, 50p (UK), £1 (outside UK)

The KSL Catalogue of Books (English language) currently held by KSL, £2 (UK), £3 (outside UK)

**ALL OUR PUBLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE THROUGH AK DISTRIBUTION,
3 BALMORAL PLACE, STIRLING, SCOTLAND AND THE K.S.L.**

K.S.L.

B.M. HURRICANE
LONDON
ENGLAND WC1 3XX

THE KATE SHARPLEY LIBRARY

Deptford Anarcho-Syndicalists (DAM)

THE SPANISH RESISTANCE (roughly 1939-51) was even more ignored or, if incidents had to be mentioned distorted, than the Spanish Revolution. The Civil War, itself a disgrace to world journalism in its reporting, did not end with Franco's victory. The anarcho-syndicalist movement carried on by illegal industrial action backed by guerrilla bands and individual partisan fighters. One such (the best known in Spain) was Francisco Sabater (el Quico) - or Sabate in Catalan.

A film was made with Gregory Peck as a character based on Sabate, Anthony Quinn as a character based on the notorious Civil Guard chief Quintero (described in Miguel Garcia's Franco's Prisoner) and Omar Sharif based on Hollywood's idea of a good priest. The film shows Sabate grown old and cautious but he died quite young - the author may have had in mind another fighter Cerrada (a pamphlet on one of his later attempts is available at the showing).

Don't let the fact that the Anarchists are called Republicans put you off. It led to the film being withdrawn, the rightwingers thinking it portrayed Reds as heroes the leftwingers thinking it portrayed republicans as bandits, All might have been solved if they'd been frank!

The film **BEHOLD A PALE HORSE** will be shown with
a discussion afterwards at;

LEWISHAM LABOUR CLUB,
Limes Grove, off Lewisham High Street,
Sunday 25th April at 3-pm.

Refreshments available, and the meeting will close
about the time the bar opens - we can carry on
talking (it's a local quiz night from 8-ish,
you can stay).

£1 admission unless you can't afford it.

(122, 36 buses pass the door - first stop after Clock
Tower. Nearest rail: Lewisham, links to Charing X,
Waterloo East and London Bridge.
Free parking. Entrance through car park).



The real El Quico crossing the Pyrenees

SUPPORT THE TIMEX
WORKERS
**MASS
PICKET**

MON 29th MARCH

and every Monday until further notice.

Coach leaves WYLIES
(Pollokshaws Rd) at 5.15am.
& GEORGE SQUARE (Post
Office) at 5.30am.

NEWS LETTER

Our anti wedding cover picture is available in bundles of 50 for £1 at the Alternative Bookshop.

Propaganda is the key to conscious change. So why not organise some self activity fly-posting

These MA'AM stickers are also available.



**ALL
RULERS
PRINTING**

Today has now established a fully operational print workshop. Which gives us cheap access to an A2 press photo-enlarger and vary-typer. This is a terrific resource IF IT IS USED.

WORKSHOPS

Keith wants to know if anyone is interested in helping write a leaflet on the recent wave of Urban Riots.

Is anyone interested in reviving the old history workshop idea. There is a lot of original and unique material floating about?

MEETINGS

The City Halls are closed for the summer. So no Glasgow meeting in July or August.

THE NEXT PUBLIC MEETING IN THE CITY HALLS IS THE FIRST WEDNESDAY IN SEPTEMBER (2nd)

These meetings have not been famous for their effectiveness, but the summer gives many people a chance to get their ideas straightened out. So lets hope that people will get together in September with some definite proposals.

IMPORTANT MEETING

About starting
a newspaper
EVERYONE
COME

at Keith's house.
7 Merrick Gardens
Off Paisley Rd West

Underground to Brox or Copland rd.

Buses 99, 80, 34.

Phone 427 6300 for more info
Wednesday, 15th July. 8 p.m..

an Anarchist Window Pane

By R. Lynn
16.2.81

Will the
the editor

MONEY STILL MATTERS

The following money has been received to cover the cost of the newsletter, i.e., for this and the last one.

I have printed the list because the newsletter would not come out if it were not for these people and we owe them our thanks.

I also print the list to show how few people have contributed to the newsletter. I have not been asking the unwaged for money although some have given anyway. Those who are working . . . I appeal to you not to let the financial burden fall on so few people.

	<u>£</u>
Gerry C	2
Ben M	11
Dougie H	1
Keith M	3
Farquhar	1
Stevens	2
Mark L	5
J Bisset	1
Frazer R	2
John C	1
David C	5
TOTAL	£24.00

Payment in kind from:

Tommy K
Steven D
Terry
Ian B

COSTS

May June Newsletter	£14.96½
July Newsletter	
Stencils	3.00
Posting	8.02½
TOTAL	£26.00

We are short by £2 and have nothing with which to produce the next newsletter.

If you are working and have not contributed then others are carrying you.

Libertarian VOICE

ALTERNATIVE COMMUNITY
NEWSPAPER PRODUCED IN
MURKHOUSE
FREE



**PRACTICAL
ANARCHY**



NO LAWS, NO LEADERS, NO HERES, NO GODS...

DISCUSSION PAPER ON ORGANISING THE PAPER

Anarchists are not against organisation. They are against authoritarian forms of organisation which allow one group of people to exploit or control another group.

So when we think about organising a paper, we want it to be efficient, but we don't want a small group controlling it at the expense of others

What I am writing now for instance is not me telling you what the paper is to be like. I am writing some definite suggestions which you have got to make your mind up about.

So think about what you read and Write back or go to the meeting with your own ideas.

THE SCALE OF THE PAPER

Is the paper to be National or Local?

A Scottish paper has several advantages.

Scotland is a wider area for distribution and sales. However it costs more than it is worth to send the paper to the few radical shops that exist in Scotland.

It would be a totally different story if anarchists in other Scottish cities agreed to take bundles of two or three hundred papers to sell.

If people in other cities also got involved in writing articles etc. this might improve the quality of the paper, especially the 'hard news' content.

It is worth noting that Aberdeen and Edinburgh already produce a local newsheet and Dundee have done so in the past - and Orkney.

However these papers might lose their guts if they lost their local identity, and they might be harder to sell.

The DISADVANTAGES OF RUNNING A Scottish paper are that it is very difficult to organise a large group of people spread over a large area

Frankly I think there are too many so called anarchists around who are just not reliable.

So I would say that a truly national anarchist paper is impossible from an organisational point of view.

A compromise may be to CALL the paper 'A Scottish Anarchist Paper', but keep all the control in Clydeside. At Least this would leave the door open for the future

A. CLYDESIDE PAPER

Even on the scale of Clydeside the problems of organising a paper are very great.

Personally I feel that the Magic Oofle Dust of spontaneity is not enough.

A definite machinery of organisation needs to be built up which includes

- 1) A precise system of communication
- 2) A way of making definite decisions
- 3) Someone(s) with responsibility for co-ordination
- 4) definite commitments from all those involved.

This organisation should make sure that the paper gets produced on time AND that it gets sold.

HOW IS THE PAPER PUT TOGETHER?

I will describe how the paper would be put together so that you can get some idea of the nature and scale of the organisational problems. Then I will describe some of the organisational alternatives.

You should note that I am not writing a paper on what kind of newspaper we want - that is a separate issue which hopefully others will apply themselves to.

FIRST EDITORIAL

At the start of everything people have to get together to decide.

- 1) What is liable to be news when the paper comes out
- 2) What important issues should it contain.
- 3) Who is going to do what.
- 4) Where can we get suitable pictures and illustrations
- 5) Who will set up the printing, distribution, finance etc.
- 6) What deadlines have to be set ?

WRITING THE ARTICLES.

Individuals or small groups then have to write the articles.

- 1) The point of the article has to be clear and it has to be interesting. This means the first or second draft is rarely good enough.
- 2) The spelling and grammar may need corrected.
- 3) An article may be too 'educated' i.e. written in a style which only makes sense to student academics.
- 4) An article may be too long winded and need to be cut down
- 5) Headlines need to be thought of.
- 6) Pictures (black and white only) need to be dug up.

Then all these articles need to be collected together - not always an easy task.

SECOND EDITORIAL.

The editors now have to sit down with all this in front of them and make decisions about what goes in and what does not.

They may have to get some stuff rewritten

The better the articles are in the first place the easier this job is.

All the stuff has to then be assessed for importance and length and allocated a space in the paper

Gaps will become apparent. These will have to be filled with more articles, pictures, cartoons or other clever ideas like spoof adverts.

Last of all the editors have to see that everything is typed and sent to the typesetter with clear instructions about

the typesetter with clear instructions about what size of print is to be used where.

TYPESETTING

A Typesetter is a sort of sophisticated typewriter which allows you to choose the sort of letters you have on the page - italics, bloc, large etc. It also types very black which is necessary to make the printers plates

LAY-OUT :

The lay-out is a very important job which has to be done carefully.

It consists of taking the type-setting, pictures, cartoons, headlines, and design work and glueing it on to white sheets in the proper place.

It is really at this stage that the quality of the paper is determined.

PRINTING

The printer has to

- 1) Screen photos
- 2) Make the plates
- 3) Print the paper
- 4) Possibly collate and fold it.

The paper may need to be folded by the people who distribute or sell it.

DISTRIBUTION

This is often a job which is done badly for the simple reason that people are exhausted by the time they have got the paper together.

Also many people look on selling the paper as an unpleasant drudge.

Nothing could be further from the truth. For this is the point where you actually meet the people who will read your 'message' and selling the paper is a great chance to talk to people

In fact an anarchist paper is not too difficult to sell. People are quite keen to find out what it is, but they are even more keen to talk to someone about it.

Papers can be sold at demos, in pubs, on the street corner, door to door or just to friends.

Whichever way it is sold, we must sell AT LEAST 1,500 TO BE VIABLE.

FINANCE

Someone has got to keep track of the money.

THE HUMAN RESOURCE

As can be seen from what I have written already, producing a paper is a fairly involved job which takes a lot of hard work and careful planning.

Fortunately many of us have done this sort of thing before and if the old hands make an effort to educate and inolve others we should have quite a strong group

On the other hand people have other calls on their time from jobs, families, political work and social life. So it is vital that lots of people get involved so as to spread the load across as many shoulders as possible

When people do make a commitment to the paper it is essential that the commitment (no matter how small) is a definite one.

One particular job which I think is too often ignored or left to chance is that of co-ordination. Without a definite arrangement for co-ordination the project will fail.

ORGANISATIONAL ALTERNATIVES

In general there are two organisational alternatives.

One would be based on the small group of people who are in constant close contact which would be able to work fairly informally.

Such a group would probably be very effective at producing the paper, but would not be able to sell in the quantities we require. They would be, as it were, producing a paper FOR

the Clydeside Anarchist group to sell.

The difficulty with this case is that other people become alienated from 'their' paper and do not support it

Also a small group would tend to 'burn out' quicker.

If only on the basis of principle I would favour working to bring together as wide a group of people as possible.

Hopefully we could then use the paper to give a bit more backbone to the Clydeside Anarchists as a group.

ORGANISING A LARGE GROUP

Obviously the more people who are involved the harder the task of organisation and co-ordination.

The first job would be to contact everyone - face to face if possible - and find out what kind of commitment they are prepared to make.

The answers are going to vary and we are going to have to find a way of co-ordinating those who have a lot to contribute with those who have only a little.

Now lets deal with specific organisational options.

REGULARITY OF THE PAPER

Should the paper come out monthly? Or quarterly? Or only Occasionally?

There are obvious advantages to bringing the paper out frequently and regularly.

- 1) People don't forget the paper between one issue and the next.
- 2) Articles do not get dated so easily. The paper can be more 'newsy'.
- 3) A sense of urgency about deadlines makes people get the finger out.

The big disadvantages are:

- 1) We might be left with little time for other activities.
- 2) The pressure gets us pissed off.
- 3) Only some of us have the time or commitment to do so much

work on a regular basis.

Connected with the above problem is how often we have meetings.

Even if the paper is less than monthly weekly meetings are probably the minimum required.

That assumes that everyone turns up and on time and does what they said they would.

There would have to be about four meetings per issue where everyone turns up, but if things are well organised there would then have to be sub-groups to organise things like distribution for example.

This also poses the question of how much division of labour there should be.

In the past, when the papers were produced by relatively small groups, everyone had a finger in everything, knew most of what was going on and shared collective responsibility for co-ordination.

Personally, I am not in favour of this system this time. It is too loose and relies too much on a few people (unappointed) taking responsibility for co-ordinating and ironing out problems.

I think we should work out definite areas of responsibility and ask people to take over in that area. Part of their job would be to gather together as many helpers as they could. (As a matter of principle as much as practicality)

Another way of dividing up the jobs would be to split the paper into different sections to be done autonomously in different geographical areas. For example Paisley might do pages 1, 2, 11 and 12, the West End might do 3, 4, 9 and 10 and the South Side might do 5, 6, 7 and 8.

This would solve a couple of problems a) the difficulty of not having close personal communication, b) no central premises, c) difficulty of a large group working together.

Also we can involve local people more easily, for instance there seems to be a lot of people in Paisley who never come to Glasgow Meetings.

If we decide to work the paper like this then we must make sure that co-ordination is properly organised. (1) one or two people would meet centrally to keep abreast with what others do (2) one or two people could have the job of Co-ordinator and attend all meetings in all areas. (3) Everyone comes to Executive Meetings and keeps in touch between meetings by 'phone.

I can see a lot of problems with this federal system but it may be the way out of one big problem - there is no obvious central venue where everyone can get together for meetings and to work on lay-outs.

Also it is quite useful to build up files of photos, cartoons etc., which are accessible to all.

NOW OUT - FROM BOOKSHOP

OpenRoad

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V6R 4G5



REPORTS OF THE OXFORD
CONFERENCE SHOULD BE IN
THIS ISSUE, BUT DUE TO
TECHNICAL HITCHES THEY
WILL HAVE TO WAIT - SORRY

HANDS OFF OUR BABIES !!!

This month ministers and hospital managers have finally come clean. For the first time, they've admitted publicly that they want to tag babies with barcodes the moment they're born. Every newspaper in the country has said what a wonderful idea this is. So have politicians from all the main parties. Selected babies have already been barcoded in Edinburgh's Royal Infirmary.

Both the Murdoch press and the few remaining competitors have taken the same line. Some woman dressed as a nurse stole a baby in Nottingham. Therefore all babies should be tagged and coded. Otherwise it could happen again.

At least one paper showed a mother kissing the barcoded foot of her day-old baby. The implication is that mothers who don't allow their babies to be tagged (like items in a supermarket) aren't good mothers.

This kind of nonsense is, of course, the stock-in-trade of advertisers, people trying to trick us into buying something or voting for them.

So let's be clear about two things.

Firstly, tagging babies has been in the pipeline for months.

It's not a response to anything that's happened in the past week or so. To say otherwise is to tell a complete lie. It's being introduced now because the media have made it acceptable now.

The 'experiments' in Edinburgh (just who do these people think they are, using our babies for experiments?) were planned some time ago. Tagging babies was also mentioned in a conference in Cambridge in April, where an American 'expert' also spoke of keeping a register of babies' footprints.

Secondly, tagging babies is not about stopping baby snatchers.

If that were really the goal, it would make much more sense to tag doctors, nurses, hospital porters, fathers, etc. Or they could be given tags to carry in their pockets. Doors to maternity wards and nurseries could be made to open only for people carrying tags.

Many government buildings use a similar system already. Who'd expect the Ministry of Defence, for example, to let strangers into the building, resting assured that no-one could take any secret documents because they all had tags sellotaped on? Obviously any whistleblower or spy could just cut the tag off.

And any serious baby snatcher could do exactly the same.

You might argue that alarms could be set to go off as soon as someone tried to cut off a tag. But if you still think these people are doing it for our benefit, just ask yourself:

WHY BARCODES?

Surely snatching one baby is as bad as snatching any other baby. Or is a nurse going to punch in the number of any baby who's being taken home legitimately, so the alarm won't go off when it's taken out by its real mother. Meanwhile a baby being snatched, not having been checked through, would set all the bells ringing. No, this isn't it:

the nurse could just cut the tag off herself when the baby's ready to go home, saving all those costs on training, but with exactly the same effect.

In that case, all tags could be the same, and there'd be no need for individual barcodes. It seems we're just not being told the truth.....

Quite a few politicians have said 'No expense should be spared' in guaranteeing baby security. That's the kind of thing politicians like to say. You'd hardly expect them to say 'Baby snatching must be got down to an acceptable level.'

On the other hand, a sceptic might think the whole point is for the Tories to give some more money to their friends in the private security industry. After all, they've given entire prisons to firms like Group 4, in return for Italian-style donations to party funds.

But for once this doesn't seem to be it. Baby-tags cost about 10p each. Introducing them in a big hospital like Edinburgh's Royal Infirmary will cost "thousands of pounds." For a maternity hospital, or a security company, that's peanuts.

And yet the authorities do seem very anxious to tag and barcode our babies.

WHY?

Let's consider what else has been decided or 'considered' in the past year or so.

1

After being dropped three years ago, **electronic tagging of offenders** is coming back. Whereas in previous 'experiments' tags had to be plugged into the phone, now they can send messages to private security guards over the airwaves.

In a move closely connected to rightwing Tory propaganda about the 'underclass,' *The Sunday Times* has called for the tagging of 'far fewer than 1% of the population' (i.e. less than half a million people). A pilot scheme begins in Manchester in January 1995. (In Tennessee, tags are already fitted to truanting schoolchildren).

2

Home Secretary Michael Howard has considered having **fingerprints taken from everyone**. Another plan is to fingerprint Britain's 32 million motorists and to include prints on driving licences. The database would be run by a private company.

Police chiefs are confident the plan will be in place by 1996.

3

Transport Secretary John MacGregor has called for all cars to be fitted with a 'black box.' **Cars would be tracked by satellite**, and drivers would be charged according to which roads they drive on and for how long. An earlier system already exists in Oslo.

Companies like GEC are hoping to employ technologies first used to track tanks during the 1991 Gulf War. To sweeten the pill, and to make more profit, motorists will also be sold various information services. The system will be tested in 1995 and is due to come into force in 1998.

4

Child benefit and pension books are due to be replaced by swipe cards in 1997, and **benefit books will disappear altogether in 1999**. Already pension books have been barcoded in parts of London.

It seems likely that eventually all benefits will be paid into bank accounts. Post offices will be run in the interests of private banks, and many will just be shut down.

One day bus fares will just be deducted automatically from the cards in our pockets.

5

The police are increasingly using **DNA testing** and some senior officers have called for the **forcible testing of all adult males**. (No date on this one yet, but this year's Criminal Justice Bill will allow DNA testing for all offences the police record).

6

City shopping centres are now routinely scanned by 24-hour videocameras. This information was first released to a wide audience at the time of the James Bulger murder. The implication was that anyone who objected to the general trend didn't care about toddlers being butchered.

7

Soon TV viewers may have to pay for each specific programme they watch. They'll buy decoder cards for the Saturday match during the week. Already people using cloned cards can have their **reception turned off** individually by Sky.

8

Britain's chief film censor, who thinks childhood is an 'outdated concept', wants **compulsory ID cards to be issued to all children**. The pretext is to 'control access' to videos, fireworks, alcohol, cigarettes, cinemas, etc.

Baby tagging fits very well into this list of developments. In every case, the authorities tell us it's for our own good. If you're not a baby snatcher or a mugger or a murderer, why should you object?

Well we don't think the government which bombed Iraq into the Stone Age to protect the rights of Kuwaiti oil billionaires gives a damn about protecting children (or adults) any more than Saddam Hussein does.

The same goes for politicians of all parties, and for officials and advisers in all Ministries. Health Department officials, for example, are little more than agents of the huge drug companies; and their colleagues in the Ministry of Defence are little more than agents of the arms manufacturers. Transport bureaucrats give millions to construction companies and increasingly to security and electronics companies too. Their hands are all dripping with blood.

The government only protects people to the extent that it's good for Business. In short, it's there to keep us in 'acceptable levels' of poverty and disease, and to force most of us to work for the rich. They don't care about our babies being stolen any more than they care about our houses being broken into, or deaths caused by tobacco. They like it when working class people turn on each other and we live in fear. Nor would things be different if any other party were in power. Even if everything were nationalised we'd just be exploited directly by state bureaucrats rather than by the directors and bankers who currently tell them what to do.

Recent calls to abolish benefits for single mothers show us that the ruling parasites feel strong. They're on the march. More and more information is being kept on more and more people.

Of course, someone reading this might think it's written by a bunch of religious or political loonies.

So here are some concrete predictions.

First, quite soon **everyone will be barcoded**, maybe via trackable ID cards. The media (i.e. communications multinationals) will tell us this is to save us from horrific crimes and to help us pay for things.

Second, baby tagging will be exposed as inadequate, and there'll be calls to inject **some kind of tag internally**, probably under the skin.

Third, they'll want to take **DNA samples from babies** as soon as they're born. (These can be taken from any cell sample). The aim? To protect us all, naturally.

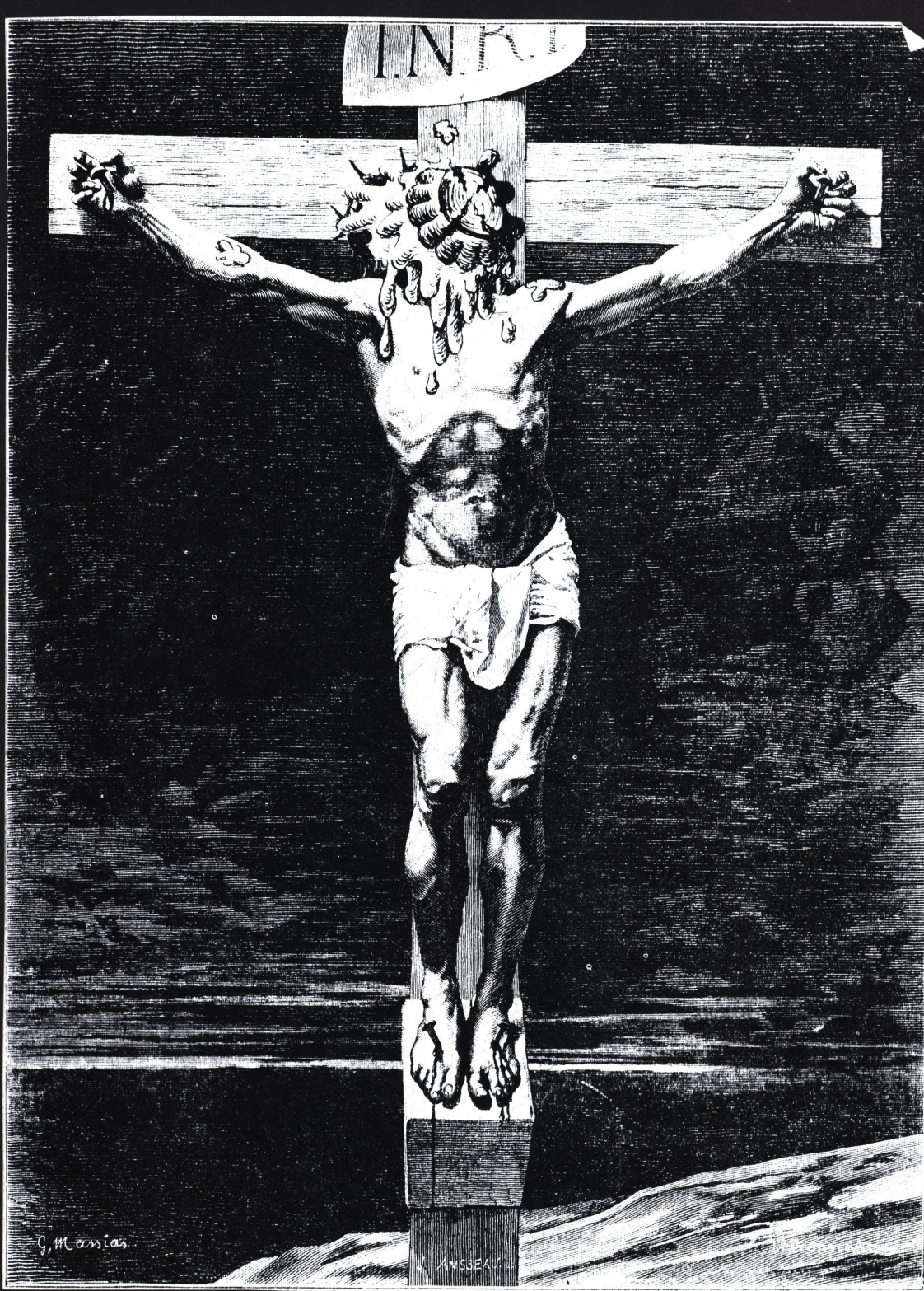
The mass media discourage us from looking beyond the next few months. But if we do, we see lines of information being established which are increasingly two-way or 'interactive.' Surveillance, or keeping track of people, **leads directly to control**.

We'll say it straight.

By the year 2000, the rulers hope to keep tabs on us all by electromagnetic means. Corresponding types of direct influence would make Orwell's 'telescreens' look primitive.

The only thing that can stop this is Revolution. Against this World Society of Exploitation.

Pubd. by Some Opponents of Technofascism, Scotland, July 1994.



28 March
23 May

April 25
June 20

kbc

presents

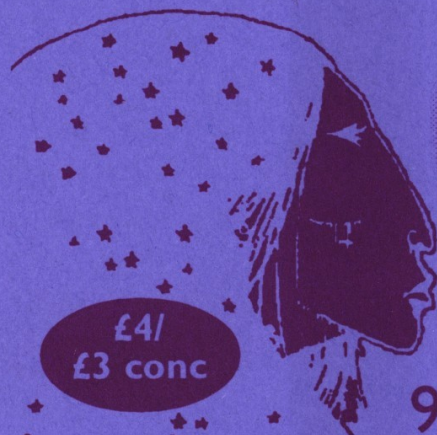
trickle chargery & seeping tweeks
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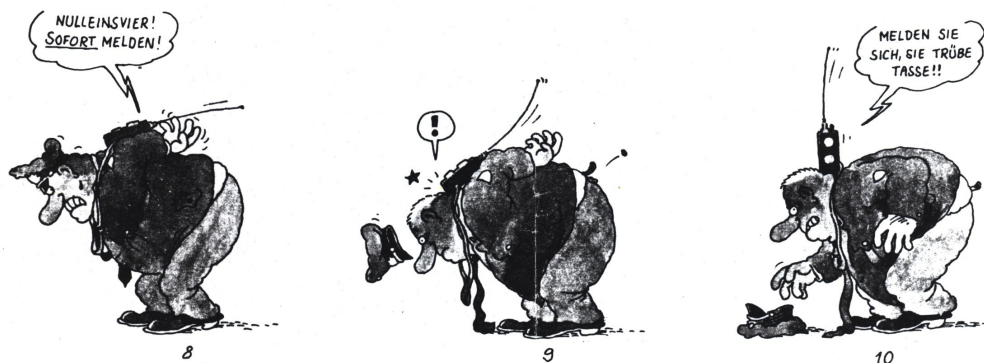
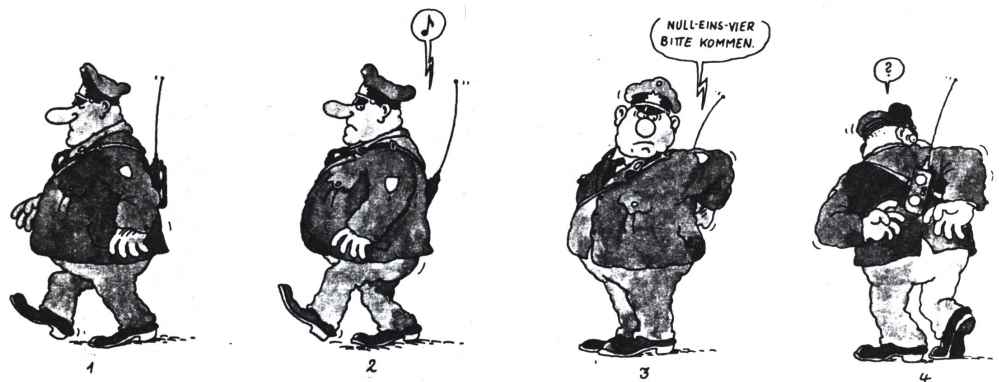


CONSERVE ENERGY



BURN A BUREAUCRAT

Gerd Seyfried
Nulleinsvier, bitte kommen!





11



12



13



14

POST - SOLSTICE PARTY

(Fuck Christmas!)

Friday 22nd December '95

**to celebrate the Wanderers return.
and coincidentally, Buzz's birthday!**

Carry-outs confiscated for arrivals after 1am!

NOBODY'S FOOL

A new society: what you cannot vote for

A General Election while appearing to offer change, delivers nothing. Even before the rightward shift 'new' Labour made the Liberal Democrats & the SNP appear vaguely radical, only tinkering with the system could result from voting.

But voting nobody is not enough. Take the recent Pakistan elections, 67% didn't vote. In the USA, of those registered, it was 51% for nobody. Even in Australia, where voting is 'compulsory', a defiant minority vote nobody with little result.

Cynicism is not enough. We have to accentuate the 'positive' in what we believe in. Not voting in itself will not usher it in, but it's a start:

- * education will not be for qualifications or to fit market needs;
- * the environment always takes precedence over production & 'development';
- * profit and the system of exploitation is abolished, along with bosses & firms;
- * money (as in the recent "Star Trek" movie!) will have ceased to exist;
- * production will be for need and not profit, and not linked to advertising;
- * art, sport and music, as part of our everyday life, free from exploitation and star status;
- * with the destruction of the capitalist system, the poverty of 'developing' nations will be overturned by introducing sustainable production freed from exploitation;
- * religion and mystification have been used to promote ignorance and fatalism, and have distorted sexuality, and kept women subservient.

These and many other qualitative changes can only begin when resistance to present values based on exchange are bolstered by a widespread vision of what is possible based on respect for human beings and the other creatures of the planet. The fraud of 'representative democracy', the theft of our dreams by impostors, these belong to politicians & Election circuses the world over. What is worth fighting for, cannot be given or voted for. Real choice begins here.

ANTI-ELECTORAL 'Boundaries'

Glasgow 'lost' one Parliamentary seat and the 81 wards were divided into 9 seats. However, Toryglen, Oatlands and part of Croftfoot were designated as Rutherglen (now outwith Glasgow, in South Lanarkshire) but may have been added back into Shettleston and Cathcart respectively.

The six areas over the page, like "islands" represent the areas with any libertarian presence (sleeping or otherwise), with only 1 contact outwith (Penilee) now transferred to Pollok, and possibly one in Rutherglen, plus a couple outwith Glasgow, but virtually alone single voices!

The most controversial campaign will be in Govan where Mohammed Sarwar triumphed over Mike Watson to get the nomination. The SNP's Nicola Sturgeon, a left-winger, is the main challenger, but speculation will lie whether the BNP will be bold enough (they weren't in 1992 - they went for Clydesdale in sth Lanarkshire, then solely because Larkhall was within it's rural boundaries). With Govan now incl Pollokshields, Kinning park and Shawlands, more contacts are to be found.

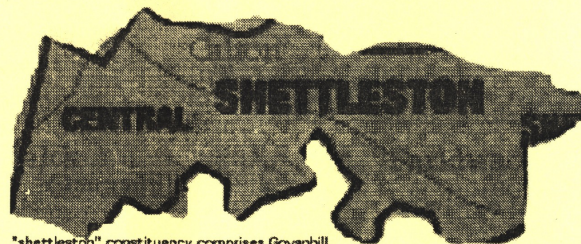
Shettleston incl Govanhill & Gorbals is the biggest concentration of contacts.

In the 'west end', the inclusion of Woodlands in the Maryhill seat and Hillhead, Partick in Kelvin divides resources.

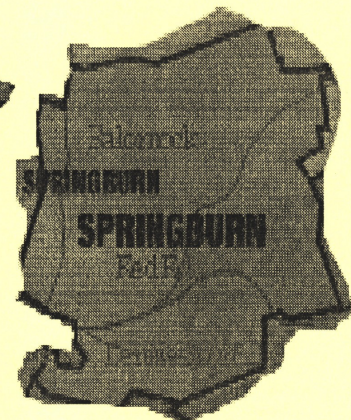


1997.

'Commissioner'



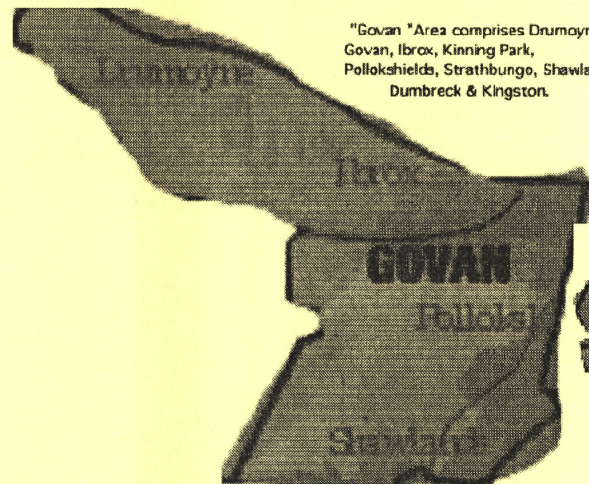
"shettleston" constituency comprises Govanhill, Gorbals, Dalmarnock, Bridgeton, Calton, Parkhead, Shettleston and Tolcross - if it wasn't for the Lab MP - David Marshall & an orange enclave, perhaps it could have been called Glasgow Green!



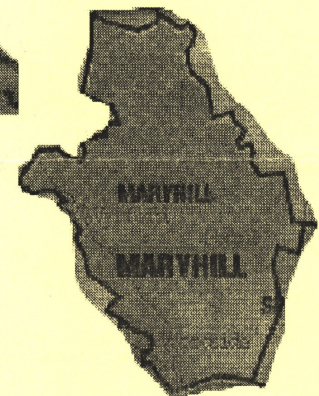
"Kelvin" takes in part of old Hillhead seat, Partick, Yorkhill, Anderston, Garnethill, Hyndland, and City Centre incl Merchant City - but not Galloway!



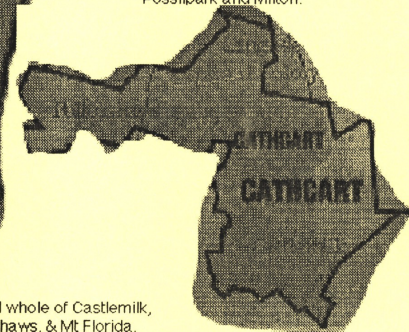
Springburn (now minus Possil) from Dennistoun to Glasgow/ Lenzie or Bishopbriggs boundary and to Robroyston.



"Govan" Area comprises Drumoyne, Govan, Ibrox, Kinning Park, Pollokshields, Strathbungo, Shawlands Dumbreck & Kingston.



Maryhill from Woodside to Summerston and Wynford to Possilpark and Milton.



Cathcart now incl whole of Castlemilk, Croftfoot, Pollokshaws, & Mt Florida.

practical Anarchy



The word anarchy comes from the Greek and means without government. This divides us from other socialists. Yes we are socialists, but we are anti-authoritarian. When we call for the overthrow of hierarchy, we mean not only its exploitative role (capitalism), but also its authoritarian role (the state). During the First International, Michael Bakunin warned of the rise of Red bureaucracy if the state was not destroyed along with the other forms of tyranny.

As we have seen from Russia and more recently in the social-democratic countries of W. Europe, the state and capitalism are becoming increasingly interdependent. The state has taken over many of the functions of private capitalism, and has become the sole employer in the case of Russia, and a major employer in the case of W. Europe, not to mention its increasing control over all aspects of life.

There is of course the parallel (but not conflicting) growth of multinational firms who are based in the most powerful Western countries.

Ironically Marxism has played a leading role in providing the ideology of the state intervention for the more progressive forms of capitalism, both in the reformist politics of social-democratic, and the 3rd world 'revolutions' which have changed the country's dependence from one imperial power to another.

The state and capitalism have been the two big baddies for anarchists. But the third pillar of hierarchy which is even older than the other two has only recently been taken up generally by socialists — Patriarchy.

The various women's liberation groups have finally forced on to the attention of all, what was exposed before by such as Alexandra Kollontai and Emma Goldmann, but was not faced up to by the majority of socialists of the day, who 'happened' to be men.

Although the question of confining roles, which we are all conditioned to play, was raised by anarchists it was usually on an abstract level or as it applied to men.

When anarchists are asked what they want, they usually reply with a long list of what they don't want. This may appear negative, but it is based upon the fact that we live in and are influenced by an authoritarian society, and so visions of life free from shackles can only be speculative. There can be no programme or blueprint of what life will be like. Which is surely what makes anarchist society attractive. The possibility of CREATING history, of fulfilling ourselves as social individuals and not living as cogs for our wealth to be stolen.

WUM!



But of course there are guidelines and directions. We do believe in spontaneity, but not in the sense of things falling out of the sky, but in the sense of individuals, groups, society freely choosing to take certain directions, unrestrained by promises of false rewards or by threats of punishment.

Here are some of the characteristics which we would argue an anarchist society would have:

1. It is fundamental that all relationships (work, social, sexual etc.) should be based on the principle of voluntary association, with people coming together because they want to, and as important, withdrawing when they want to.
2. Decision-making to be based as much as possible on direct democracy. If due to numbers, time, distance, etc., delegates are elected, they must be subject to instant recall and posts be rotated as often as possible or necessary.



3. The nature of work itself would be changed. Production would be for the need of the community, as it decided through its producer and consumer collectives. Some modern technology and a degree of specialisation would make work less tedious and time consuming, but would be discarded where it led to alienation and/or pollution. Wages would be abolished and distribution of resources based on the maxim - from each according to their ability, to each according to their need.

4. Sexual relationships, without losing their intimacy, would shed their possessive traits and people remain partners or monogamous for as long as they wished, no external pressure being brought to bear (unfortunately other than centuries old conditioning).

5. Education would become learning and shed its institutional framework. Much of work, losing its alienation, would become a way of learning, as would indeed life itself. Other learning resources and facilities would open for use by old and young alike, they as a community creating such resources in the first place. Children would be brought up collectively and share experiences with their peers and adults in a more total environment.

6. Anti-social behaviour would be treated by the community as a whole. With property and authority abolished many of today's typical crimes such as theft and violence will no longer be widespread. It is obvious that prisons, as rehabilitative measures, are counterproductive.

Hopefully these characteristics will sow a few seeds in the readers speculative mind. We don't want (this has been one of our 'failings' throughout history) to give you the answers. We fight against governments because they claim to have all the answers, and in fact punish us for daring to solve the problems we face.

We are anarchists because we want to create a society which will allow us to BEGIN to answer the problems of life — violence, exploitation, depression, anxiety, and leave behind a society which creates them and then glosses over them.

NOW, HOW?

Well for starters the means we use should reflect as much as possible the ends we hope to achieve.

Once again the slip into what not to do. To some extent we all have authoritarian/obedience traits, but it is very important to make our efforts at change as consciously anarchist as possible. And this brings our actions and ideas into 2 fronts.

Firstly that of defending ourselves and others from the everyday onslaught of repression, sectarianism, boredom, sexism, etc., which are the trademarks of government and capitalism in N. Ireland.

And here it is easy to get caught up in the reformism of trade unionism in defending the rights at the workplace; the nationalism of wanting the Brits out without also a challenge to government per se; the reformism of equal rights for women and homosexuals and lesbians, rather than a critique of sex roles and possessiveness; the struggle against H-Block, without pointing out that all prisons are the weapon of the ruling class.

The 2nd front is that of creating liberated zones of the mind, of areas, and of relations with each other. This is done through learning, both by yourself and others; keeping the authorities at bay, by either force (as happened in the early 70s

or by alternatives (work coops - media, music etc.); and trying to establish work and social relations on an equal and voluntary basis.

Ideally there should be a synthesis of the two fronts, as it is impossible to create alternatives within a hostile environment and disillusioning to resist only to create new shackles, whether they be the trade union bureaucracy or our own police force.

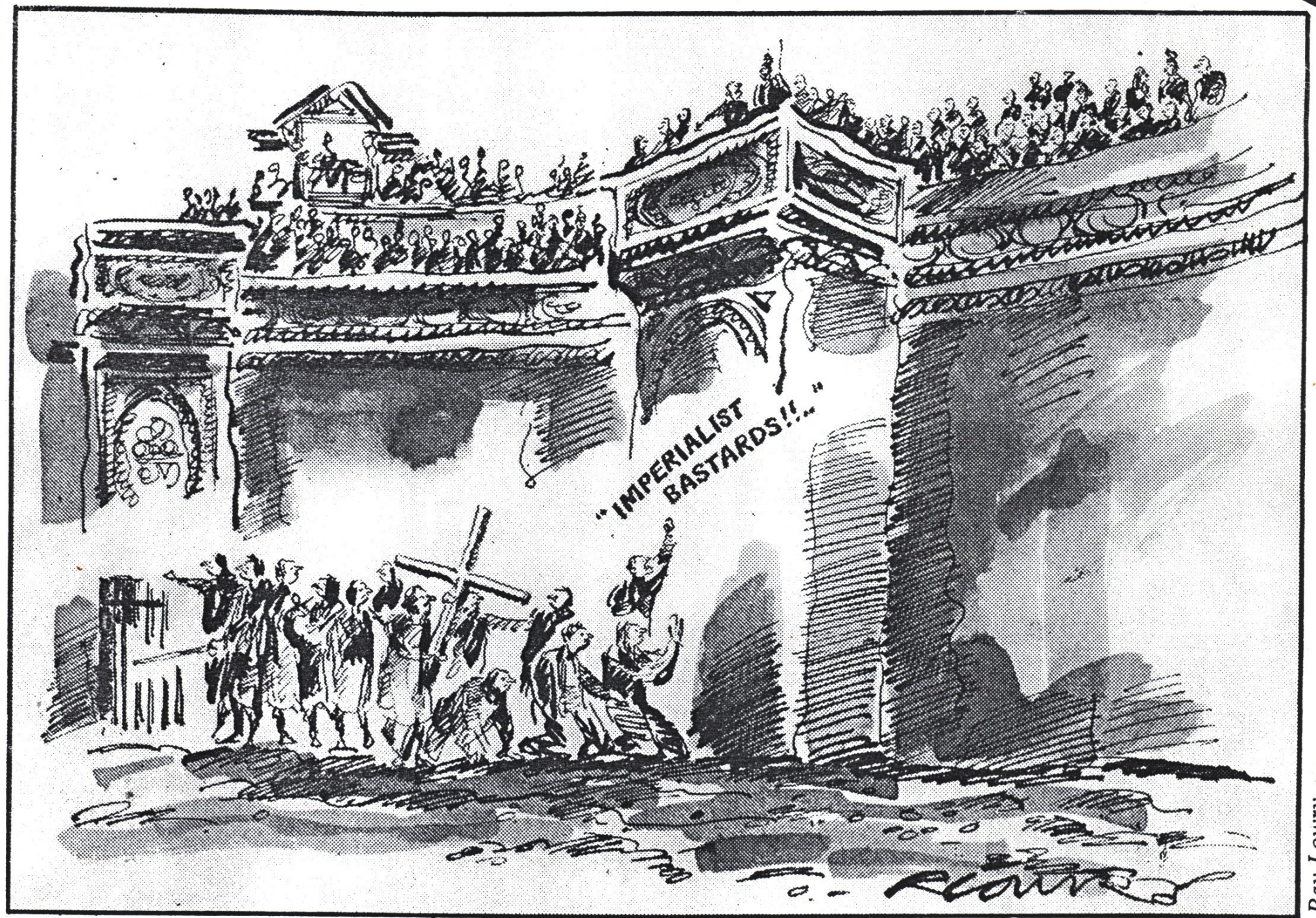
Our policies must stem from the reality we live in. We are not utopian, nor are we realists in that we want to change reality. We are anarchists.

**groucho
marxist** 

JOHN COOPER
34 RAITHBURN AVE.
GLASGOW G45.



TARZAN of the APES



'Why do they keep bringing politics into sport?'

Plus jamais ça !

grâce à la
**CHEVILLE
BURP**



Cette page, extraite d'un magazine à grand tirage, montre comment l'esprit de lucre, inspiré par Satan, s'est emparé de la notoriété de Jésus pour en faire un argument publicitaire. C'est bien triste.

Dear Fellow Citizen,

POLLOK ESTATE: GLASGOW'S LOST LEGACY?

~~~~~

**LET HISTORY RECORD** that ~~~ reminiscent of M.P. Tom Johnston's *History of the Working Classes in Scotland*, which exposed the role of the feudal barons in the Highland Clearances ~~~ Councillors of Strathclyde Region, in collaboration with the Scottish Office and Wimpey Construction, were directly responsible for the wanton pillage and environmental rape of the green belt, woodlands and breathing spaces of the small village of Corkerhill (population 1000), when on Friday 3rd March 1995 at 4am ~~~ while the people were asleep ~~~ an invasion force of around 500 police and 300 over-zealous mercenary security guards, backed up by helicopters, video units, chainsaw gangs and snatch-squad vehicles, sneaked in under cover of darkness in order to dispossess the community, and impose on it all the adverse health and safety impacts of the M77 motorway, with its 53,000 vehicles a day.

**Now that** the lying and unwarranted attacks on those who wished to uphold the historic 1939 Maxwell Family Conservation Agreement, and to protect the countryside environment at Pollok Estate from the ravishes of the unwanted M77, have subsided, hopefully this could be the time for all fair-minded and clear-thinking people to take stock, and to at least consider ways and means to alleviate and recompense those unfortunate communities sacrificed, and currently suffering ~~~ as the 1988 Public Inquiry into the Ayr Road Route concluded they would ~~~ from the construction blight and disruption caused by the imposition of the M77, not to mention the future they face of constant noise & air pollution ~~~ a case for the European Court of Human Rights, perhaps?

**Indeed we** in Corkerhill take the view that searching questions must now be asked, all the way up to the Scottish Office and the House of Commons, by all Glasgow's Citizens, wherever they live, by calling for a Citizens' Public Inquiry into the conduct and findings of the 1988 Ayr Road Route Public Inquiry, with particular regard to

- \* Strathclyde Regional Council's "Justification" submissions,
- \* its "Social Strategy" in favour of the disadvantaged
- \* its commitment to the concepts of "Safer Cities" and "Healthy Cities", and what assessment was made concerning the devastating environmental impact the M77 is currently having on the areas of deprivation all along its route... and on all citizens of Glasgow who treasure the open spaces of Pollok Estate!!

~~~~~

WE SHOULD QUESTION the role of the National Trust for Scotland in the somewhat elitist "Pollok Advisory Committee"... how it is that Pollok Estate appears to be being carved up in favour of Haggs Castle Golf Club, whose playing area has trebled since the M77 was first plotted in 1965, helped along with public funding and a series of unsubstantiated attacks on the character of Corkerhill's residents, with further expansionist aims in the pipeline... and how it is that despite all the talk about Corkerhill Farm being adapted for educational and community uses, it has now been sold to a haulage contractor, with all that this sell-out implies...

Indeed we should want to know why Haggs Castle Golf Club was allocated £85,000 of public funds to extend the course in the 70s, more than ten years before the Public Inquiry, and all this without seeking planning permission!

WE SHOULD DEMAND to know why Corkerhill Railway Village was excluded from the provisions of the 1939 Agreement, inasmuch as for the purposes of the 1988 Public Inquiry, the Scottish Office Recorder denied that Corkerhill Estate comes within the curtilage of Pollok House, when in fact the current Pollok Park Local Plan confirms our own evidence, that Corkerhill Estate does indeed come within the curtilage of Pollok House.

Sadly, such misleading statements serve to deny the citizens of Glasgow, and of Corkerhill in particular, their **rightful claim** to a legacy of open spaces, woodland and countryside, with the result that in its centenary year 1996, the people of the once "Model Railway Village" of Corkerhill (established in 1896) will be fenced into a claustrophobic ghetto, which segregates them in a compound behind a 30 ft high wall of earth, with the M77 forming the new boundary line -- a form of social apartheid.

Meantime, two thirds of the children's play area, open spaces, and woodland strip has been confiscated in favour of Haggs Castle Golf Club, leaving them with a much larger area of Corkerhill to play golf on, than the entire community has to live, play and die in...

IS THIS WHAT THE MAXWELL FAMILY AGREEMENT INTENDED? ~~~~~

Of course, unlike Haggs Castle Golf Club, Corkerhill didn't have associate members in the Legal Department, Parks, and Planning Committees...

WE SHOULD INSIST on answers, and be told why there are on record two versions of the Maxwell Family Agreement: first, the original 1939 document which includes the words "*so far as possible*", which appear to have made it acceptable for the National Trust for Scotland to waive its obligations to the Citizens of Glasgow in 1973 in favour of the then Ayr Motorway; and second, the less ambiguous version sent to the Lord Provost of Glasgow, John Johnston, by Messrs MacLay, Murray and Spens, Solicitors, on 21st November 1966, which reads, minus the words "so far as possible":

"It has always been the wish of the family, as it was of the late Sir John Stirling Maxwell, that the lands surrounding Pollok House should remain for ever as open spaces or woodlands for the enhancement of the beauty of the neighbourhood and for the benefit of the public and in particular the citizens of Glasgow."

This version has now been confirmed as "correct in detail" by the solicitors concerned.

Therefore as the main beneficiaries, and inasmuch as the Maxwell Family bequests were intended to safeguard this legacy of open space and woodland in Pollok Estate "for ever", surely we are entitled to ask why we were not consulted in the very first instance, prior to the waiver that gave the go-ahead for the intrusion of the Ayr Motorway, as prescribed by Sir John Maxwell in the Trust's 1939 Annual Report... Indeed records must show that when we were finally consulted in accordance with Sir John Maxwell's wishes, the Citizens of Glasgow, through their elected Glasgow District Council, opposed the Ayr Road Route, as did almost every conservation group in the city.

Regrettably, the National Trust for Scotland has been duped by the somewhat sickening rhetoric coming from the short-lived, pharisaical Strathclyde Regional Council, and the Trust's longstanding parliamentary powers to protect Scotland's heritage have been seriously eroded by Strathclyde's latterday feudalists and highwaymen barons, with little real concern for Pollok Estate or the environmental consequences of imposing the M77 on the already deprived Citizens of Glasgow housed all along its route.

~~~~~  
**JOIN THE FIGHT FOR YOUR DEAR GREEN PLACE.**

VISIT CORKERHILL, OR CONTACT WALTER MORRISON (883-9947 or 882-1568)  
PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATOR FOR THE  
SAFE COMMUNITIES NETWORK OF  
THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION







ALL  
AUTHORITY  
CORRUPTS  
ALL  
SUBMISSION  
HUMILIATES



**DONT WAIT FOR THE REVOLUTION.  
MAKE YOUR OWN REVOLUTION BY  
BEING FREE PEOPLE AND  
LIVING IN COMRADESHIP.**

**NO LEADERS !  
NO LAWS !  
NO HEROES !  
NO GODS !**

**ANARCHY  
NO RULES  
O.K!**

John Cooper  
34 Raithburn Ave.,  
Glasgow G45

# Anarchy

## WHAT IS ANARCHISM?

It is not bombs, disorder or chaos.

It is not robbery or murder.

It is not war of each against all.

It is not a return to barbarism  
or to the wild state of Man.

ANARCHISM IS THE VERY OPPOSITE OF ALL  
THAT.

Anarchism means that you should be free;  
that no-one should enslave you, boss you  
or impose upon you.

It means that you should have the chance  
to choose the kind of life you want to  
live, and live it without anyone interfering.

It means that the next fellow should have  
the same freedom as you, that everyone  
should have the same rights and liberties.  
We should share the world in peace and  
harmony.

That is to say that there should be no  
war, no violence used by one set of people  
against another, no monopoly and no  
poverty, no oppression, no taking advantage  
of your fellows.

In short, anarchism means a condition of  
society where all men and women are free,  
where all enjoy equally the benefits of an  
ordered and sensible life.

From The ABC of Anarchism, by A Berkman.

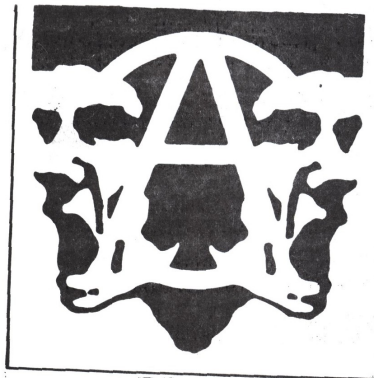
**SECURITY· SOMETHING  
BEHIND YOU· FREEDOM  
REAL INDEPENDENCE· E  
ALWAYS THERE IF NEEDED  
IF NEEDED· SAFE  
SAFE AND  
SOUND  
FOR A  
RAINY  
FREEDOM**

let's take  
the bakery!

stuff the  
crumbs





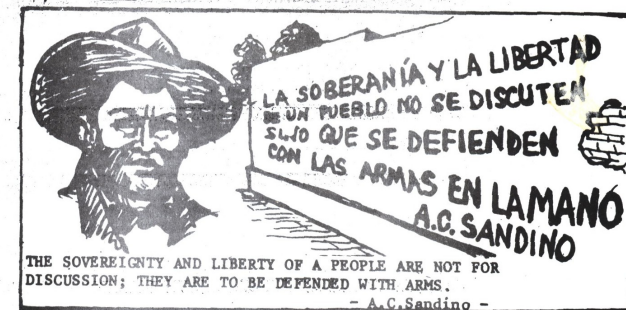


**three reasons  
why you  
should be an  
ANARCHIST**

1. FOR THE MONEY
2. FOR THE SHOW
3. TO GET READY

go, cat, go

**A**



## INTERESTING PEOPLE Nº2

### CAMPAIGN FOR THE ABOLITION OF MONEY

#### CHAPTER THREE: BANANAS AND THEIR ACQUISITION

**Method A** (Scene: A street, not too far away from where you are reading this)

**CHILD** (pleadingly): Mummy, I want a banana, please.

**MOTHER** (of 'strained' appearance, holding a shopping bag): No, I'm sorry, but I can't afford anymore.

**Method B** (Scene: A patch in a 'primitive' society - somewhere)

**CHILD** (casually): Mummy, I want a banana, please.

**MOTHER** (seated, quietly humming a song): Well, (smiles) don't just stand there looking at me! Go and pick some!

HAS MANKIND, AT THIS STAGE OF MODERN CAPITALISM, REACHED THE PINNACLE OF HUMAN CIVILISATION? WHY NOT THINK ABOUT A SOCIETY OF FREE ACCESS.



Joseph Pujol, who as Le Petomane, packed the Moulin Rouge at the turn of the century and became the sensation of Paris. He gave comic monologues enlivened by farted animal noises and was able to blow out candles a foot away. His act has never been equalled.

# What is anARCHISM?

The word "anarchy" comes from the Greek and means "without government". This divides anarchists from other socialists. Yes, we are socialists, but we are anti-authoritarian. We believe that we do not need a central government of the state, to tell us how to run our lives.

There can be no exact programme or blueprint of what life would be like in an anarchist society, but the following are some of its likely characteristics:

1. It is fundamental that all relationships (work, social, sexual, etc.) should be based on the principles of voluntary association with people coming together because they want to and (just as important) withdrawing when they want to.
2. Decision making should be based as much as possible on direct democracy. If delegates need to be elected in certain situations, they should be subject to instant recall, and posts be rotated as much as possible or necessary.
3. The nature of work itself would be changed. Production would be for the need of the community - as determined by the community. Wages would be abolished and resources would be distributed according to the maxim: from each according to their ability, to each according to their need.
4. Sexual relationships, without losing their intimacy, would shed their possessive traits (as much as possible, given our years of conditioning) and people remain partners only as long as they wish.

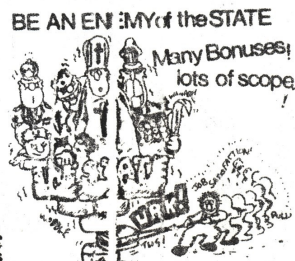
5. Education would become learning. Much or work would become a way of learning - as would all of life. Children would be brought up to share in the life of the community and not live in the narrow world of a normal family.

6. Anti-social behaviour would be treated by the community as a whole. With property and authority abolished, many of today's typical crimes, such as theft and violence would not be widespread.

The above is not intended to be the 'Final Solution'.

We fight against governments and distrust political parties and leaders because they claim to have the answers.

We are anarchists because we want to create a society which will allow us to BEGIN to answer the problems of life - violence, exploitation and alienation - and leave behind the society which created them.



No experience necessary, apply now for job description.

John Cooper  
34 Raithburn Ave.,  
Glasgow G45.



# NOTABLE CLEVER BASTARDS

BAKUMIN (Michael): First to present anarchism as a consistent political theory. Besides being active in many European insurrections, he also epitomised Federal Socialism in the First International in opposition to the authoritarian and statist socialism of Marx and the social democrats.

KROPOTKIN (Peter): Author of 'Mutual Aid' which disputed the traditional view of evolution and society as being based on 'survival of the fittest'.

During his travels he noted that in 'primitive' societies the old were looked after by the young and the sick were not thrown aside.

Kropotkin believed that people are happier when they support each other

Anarchists believe that it is crazy to compete against each other and call, instead for CO-OPERATION.

МИХАИЛ БАКУНИН



MIKHAIL BAKUNIN

ВТОРОЙ ПЕРИОДЪ СВОЕЙ ЖИЗНИ БАКУНИНЪ УНИЖАЕТЪ.

"ALL EXERCISE OF AUTHORITY  
PERVERTS  
ALL SUBMISSION TO AUTHORITY  
HUMILIATES"

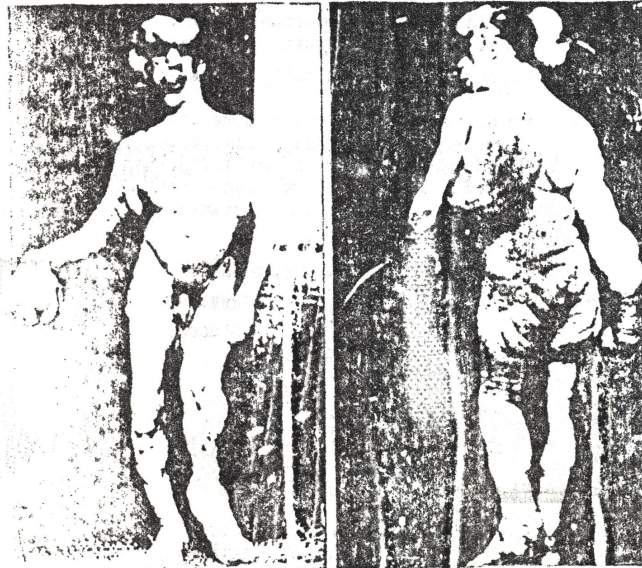
## INTERESTING PEOPLE

### NO. 1

The Elephant Man

The photographs of Merrick were taken when he was

admitted to the London Hospital in December 1886. Engravings from them appeared in the British Medical Journal. One of the engravings is shown (right). Merrick's skeleton and a cast of his head and shoulders are pictured, centre right. These remains are preserved in the museum of the London Hospital Medical College. Merrick's condition was caused by an extremely rare disease, causing tumours within the nerve fibres of the skin, and affecting bone tissue also. Even today little is known about it, and it can't be cured.



**NO APOLOGIES!**



**EVER!!**



# FUCK AUTHORITY

**ALL  
AUTHORITY?**



***Yep, all  
authority.***



### EASTER RISING April 3-4 Glasgow 1999

The three day Mayday '98 event in Bradford attracted well over a hundred participants to the themed discussions, with dozens more attending fringe workshops/talks. Glasgow Easter Rising is not intended to rival Bradford in size and scope, but to continue the process of engaging in discussion which informs our future actions.

We would not pretend that the pre-consultation process prior to this April event has been ideal, and unlike with the *northern anarchist network* support for the West Yorkshire organisers, it has sometimes seemed as if we were disturbing the winter hibernation habits of the of the anarchist/ social ecologist/ libertarian communist milieu.

Hopefully, what we have arrived at will cater for your needs, combining two days of themed discussions for the more committed participants, with the late afternoon public forums for those with less time to spare.

It is appreciated that a journey to Glasgow can involve more costs, and for this reason there is NO registration fee. We may, however, encourage donations, by local people etc. to avoid the event being too great a drain on our funds. We have included a where-to-stay guide with this mailing together with some info on 'eats' near the venue etc., acceptable watering-holes, and an idea of the socialising aspect of the event.

It is vital that you respond if you intend attending. Obviously, if you are wanting crash-space or bringing kids & require a creche, have special needs etc. this is especially vital. However, even if you're making your own B&B arrangements, it would be helpful to estimate numbers so that we could book additional rooms, or slot in additional public forums.

No doubt an event on the scale of Bradford will follow, perhaps in 2000, but making this Glasgow event a success would be a step in this direction, if not a great leap forward. With the spate of elections this year, with special significance for Wales and Scotland, our response needs to be clarified. There is, above all, the June 18th period of imaginative protest against the global marketplace in Koln, London and other centres of modern capitalism. Sharpening up our strategy and objectives can only aid the direct action which will hopefully involve thousands and not be distorted by the media circus.

It would be a great help to us in Glasgow if you could respond with the following deadlines in mind. By **post**: to reach us by Saturday 20th March, preferable [27th latest if you need to forewarn us]. By **telephone**: answerphone messages or occasional personal contact up to 8.30pm Monday 22nd preferable [see below], or 29th at latest. By **e.mail** up to 6.30pm Monday 22nd, or a week later if you make a 'late decision'. As mentioned above anybody requiring even crash-space should make an effort to forewarn us.

#### Agenda for themed discussions

As in Bradford there will be discussions in groups of hopefully no more than 20 which can allow everybody to feel comfortable with contributing. As in Bradford, we will try and allocate people to groups that are geographically diverse in origin. We will be sensitive to gender factors, especially if we know in advance of any 'imbalance'. There will be at least one 'facilitator' who will have an enabling role to avoid the discussion being bogged down, to prevent one or two voices or egos from 'dominating', and to assist debate observing levels of mutual respect and tolerance. Below we indicate some of the themes we would expect groups to follow. In addition to a facilitator for each day, we will need a recorder, so that some of the more salient points can be noted for posterity and future reference. Volunteers for facilitator and recorder roles please feel free to contact us a.s.a.p.

Time isn't elastic, so we need to try and keep to a schedule. Here's what we have in mind.

#### Friday 2nd April

Day for travellers outside central Scotland to arrive. We will arrange an evening rendezvous and can meet you at bus or train stations, or where airport link buses arrive from Glasgow or Prestwick airports. As it is the Easter weekend a lot of people will be travelling, so if you want to take advantage of apex bus [incl. *National Express* or train fares [*GNER*, *Virgin*] or the various 'cheap' airline operators [*Easyjet*, *Midland*, *Ryanair*, *Go*] - Luton, Stanstead etc. act now! Hitching, you take your chance, but please don't arrive before Friday!

#### Places to Stay & misc Info

We will have a number of places in our flats for a maximum of 3 nights stay [leave Monday]; possible crash places at a Kinning Park community complex; you can phone Glasgow University to arrange low-price b&b [£17pppn] or self-catering [£13pppn] 0800-0272-030; you can stay at the Backpackers Hostel, Independent hostel or the YWCA in Newton Tce.; you can book accommodation via Tourist Information 0990 992244. Local guest houses near Queens Park include Glades 423-4911, Regent 422-1199 & Reidholme 423-1855. Camping would only be advisable in a private back garden, phone us - also while far south of the Arctic Circle, Glasgow is often damp! The other three Glasgow senior football teams are playing away, but Celtic [95% Season tickets out of 60,000 capacity, are home to Dundee, 551-8653]. We aim to arrange socials, with clubbing on Sunday night for those who are entertainment minded. If there is a demand, & weather permitting we can have a walk, game of football, picnic etc. on 'Easter Monday' before people leave.

#### Saturday 3rd April

Travel to Govanhill Neighbourhood Centre, Daisy St.- between Calder St. & Allison St..

Trains from Central Station [above ground] get off at nearest station, Queens Park, Victoria Rd. exit on lines to Newton or Neilston.

12 bus to Calder St.; 2nd stop, 5,44\*,66\* bus [incl. a services] to Victoria Rd., stop before Allison St.; 19,31,37 & 74 to Cathcart Rd, get off before or after Calder St.; 89 from Byres Rd\*, via Govan, get off Pollokshaws Rd. at Allison St. [all *First Bus*]; 96/96a *Arriva* from Whiteinch>Kinning Park> Allison St., alight at Langside Rd.;



Glasgow Underground is some distance away but does connect to crash-space in Kinning Park pre 10.30pm, Bridge St. next to connecting bus-services if heading to Govanhill.

We can send you a **Visitors Transport Guide** on request or you can pick one up from the St. Enoch Sq. Travel Centre or Tourist Info in George Sq..

**Saturday 3rd April: Register from 9.50am.** Allocated to your group on arrival, details from desk.

Starts at 10.30am sharp with brief welcome address

#### THEME DISCUSSIONS ON UNDERMINING GLOBAL CAPITALISM

As the preamble to the Bradford themed discussion put it: "The themed discussions will be in groups with diverse points of views. Here are a few questions on each of the four themes [intended to get]...people thinking about the issues before the conference. It is not intended that the points listed below are the only ones to discuss in each theme. People will hopefully disagree or agree with some or all of it, and spot important points missed out. Our intention was to provoke or inspire discussion and thoughts". We realise that it might appear ambitious to 'get through' such subjects in 90 minute 'play' and much will depend on making considered contributions while avoiding repetition & petty 'disputes' with the help of the facilitators.

10.40am- 12.10pm [1]GLOBAL ECONOMY, MULTINATIONALS, EC, G8, WORLD BANK etc.  
Capitalism isn't national it's drive has always been international through imperialism & now with neo-colonialism . Protectionism & other obstructions to 'free trade' are being eroded and governments are colluding with multinational companies to extend their 'freedom' to over-ride environmental laws, move production, ride roughshod over cultural allegiances etc.. The desire to maximise surplus value is the over-riding concern with public image, the camouflage. 'New Labour', Clinton economics etc. incorporate abandonment of national solutions & aspirations such as wealth distribution, the role of the State redefined as an 'enabler' etc.. Yet the world has trading blocks, such as NAFTA, SEATO and the European Community. Is the latter an anachronism, and has many of its past solutions being driven by social control ? What are the roles of the various worldwide organisations run ostensibly by a clique of 'rich nations'. In addition there are previously secret conferences bringing together keyplayers of Multinationals, academia & Political Parties. How does our understanding of these forces shape our revolutionary response: through non-reactive campaigns, our media.  
Is capitalism, as the quote from George Soros in the June 18th leaflet indicates, vulnerable at this juncture, with the millennium & market volatility as witnessed in Hong Kong, Tokyo, South Korea & Brazil ?

12.10pm - 12.30pm brief tea/coffee/biscuit/outside fag break

12.30pm - 2pm **THEME DISCUSSIONS**

[2] DECLARATION OF AUTONOMY OR STATE DEVOLUTION OF POWER **anarchist circle** text 1-3-99

[see APPENDIX]

2-3PM Break for late-lunch, go out to local eats.

3.10pm **PUBLIC FORUMS I**

*Note other people will arrive for these & we need to keep to the advertised timings.*

3.10pm - 5.15pm. Choice of Forums. These are not finalised at present. The number going on simultaneously depends on the number of overall participants & rooms available as well as offers to give a prepared talk. Possibilities include Social Ecology, Marxist speaker on contradictions of capitalism; the Green Anarchist controversy; Chiapas solidarity; Mumia & prisoners solidarity; workplace agitation; non-waged struggles.  
leave building by 5.30pm.

**Sunday 4th April** Have breakfast beforehand ! 11.15am start

11.30am-1.00pm **THEME DISCUSSIONS**

[3] **THE SEDUCTION OF CONSUMERISM IN POST-MODERN CAPITALISM**

This is the age of the mass consumer. Virtually everybody is deluged by advertising through television and other media, including the internet. We are seduced into individualising our needs, and expressing our aspirations through designer clothing & high-tech products. Despite wide disparities of wealth & the false 'trickle-down' philosophy of capitalism, as consumers we are manipulated into a materialistic outlook as expressed through the home, cars, holidays & gadgets. Beliefs such as Islam & Buddhism offer alternatives that stand in juxtaposition to the global marketplace. Markets arise to cater for niche & minority tastes. Even anarchists & environmentalists aren't immune, short of an illusory 'withdrawal from society'. We live contradictory lives often more suggestive of ethical consumerism or alternative lifestyleism. Radical projects such as Adbusters, Chumbawamba & agitation on the World Wide Web indication contestation to the worldview of capitalism on the periphery. The *Decadent Action* group in London urged a different approach, advocating the growth of debt to satisfying materialistic cravings. Advertising is often contradictory & increasingly sophisticated. Is revolutionary intervention possible ?  
1.00 - 2pm lunch +tea/coffee break ,filled rolls in Centre,or cafes outside.

## 2-3.30pm **THEME DISCUSSIONS**

### [4] **RESISTANCE & EFFECTIVE OPPOSITION TO GLOBAL CAPITALISM**

It is over 10 weeks to the June 18th protests provoked by the G8 summit in Köln[Cologne], Germany. Some of the instigators of such opposition expect "acts, stunts, sabotage, hactivism, parties" & other direct action as well as demos. What types of action are most effective. Which empower people. Which encourage future participation and don't demoralise, lead to arrests or injury. Brainstorming session on past examples, good & bad which deserve to be 'resurrected'. Recent reference to Reclaim the Streets, CJA opposition, roads protests etc.. What contribution do movements, through temporary autonomous zones or long-term organisation make to the legitimacy and stability of capitalism. What possibilities exist to involve people away from the radical milieu in downtrodden working class areas, inner city areas with ethnic diversity or amongst women or different age groups? What are the lessons from history, last 30 years, in terms of oppositional movements. New inspiration from Mexico, India and other 'third world' movements of peasants & workers: identifying strengths and limitations. Leaving the 20th century pattern of protest.

3.30-3.345pm brief tea/coffee break .

3.50pm - 5.20pm **Organisation of the Future** including future discussion events & coordination of initiatives.

Leave building by 5.30pm

## APPENDIX

AS subjects of the British State, we learn that power is to be devolved to a Scottish Parliament. This Parliament has been granted powers to oversee certain responsibilities currently carried out by the Scottish Office in London & Edinburgh.

This is the first Scottish Parliament since a "parcel of rogues" decided to throw in their lot with the English dominated Westminster parliament in 1707. Since then the general populace, reluctantly & not without a struggle, has been granted the vote. We nominally have power to elect our political leaders. No such power exists within the economic sphere, since power is linked to shareholdings in companies, many of whom are multinational.

Constitutionally, however, we are not citizens of Scotland, far less the U.K.. We remain subject to the Crown & State, despite all the talk of reducing the hereditary powers. We are tainted and implicated in a history of colonial and imperial subjugation of people overseas. We have become largely docile, consumers of mass culture, and the insipid participation it entails.

Returning a Parliament to Edinburgh, will it be said reinvigorate the public sphere and generate a pride in our identity and tradition. There is said to have been a similar resurgence since the rebirth of nationhood across central and eastern Europe. Some have exhibited peaceful, more enlightened nationalism like Slovenia or Estonia. Others have seen nationalism equated with linguistic or spurious ethnic identity based on the politics of scapegoating and genocide.

A devolved Scottish Parliament or independent nation will exist within the new European Union and the trend towards the Europe of the regions, common currency with the Euro & standardised regulation decreed by the Commission. It is also a 'fortress Europe' as with the Roman Empire, controlling 'economic migrants' from outside its boundaries and restricting refugee status. As an emerging economic super-power it is competing with the north american, Chinese and far east trading blocs for investment from multinational companies.

## SELF-DETERMINATION

The major constitutional debate, which touches on the question of citizenship, concerns how far will self-determination proceed? Unlike their Scottish Convention partners, the Liberal Democrats, Labour's devolution policy is not part of a worked out policy of linking the British Isles as a federal state. Labour's conception of a Scottish Parliament arose out of their main concern, as a conservative party, to protect the union. The intentions of the majority of the Scottish people, although ambiguous, go beyond the confines of Labour. The current rise of the Scottish National Party draws on the aspirations for self-determination to "rise and be a nation again" in the sense that the genie has been let out the bottle with the vote to proceed with a Scottish Assembly.

Labour's strategy is that, as in Catalonia with their parliament in Barcelona, within the Spanish state, pragmatism will prevail over sentiment once the parliament is up & running. However, Labour have Tony Blair as Prime Minister. Despite (or because?) his public school Edinburgh background, his concerns are seen as those of 'middle england', whose grasp of Scottish affairs rival Margaret Thatcher's genius for sensitivity. Scottish public opinion has often been to the 'left' when it comes to questions such as opposing cuts in services or extending casualisation.

It isn't clear therefore, what the outcome of the devolution process will be. The momentum towards independent sovereignty, as a republic or as a constitutional settlement with a 'peoples' monarchy, as in Scandinavia or the Benelux countries, could be stalled the will of the Scottish people to proceed further.

What is clear, however, is that any self-determination or independence will be subordinated to the global markets and operating costs and priorities of multinational companies. Any political expression of "power to the people" will be extremely limited given that the major forces which shape our lives are bound up with a global capitalist system.

Even if political power arose, in a libertarian sense, from the people as citizens, and elected representatives were subject to recall and mandated to express the wishes of their electors, rather than the Party apparatus to which they belong, they would still be economically subject to the profit motive & fluctuations of the global market. As individuals we are reduced to being wage slave & powerless!



Although the implementation of the Multilateral Agreement on investment has been stalled by nation-states led by France, multinational corporations still have the upper hand in dealings with Governments that try and regulate their dealings or implement green, 'clean it up' policies. Even without the M.A.I., corporations have the power to threaten or withdraw plants if their profits and operations are curtailed.

To invest our hopes for the future in political change, confined to the level at which we are governed and taxed, without a clear approach to the economic dynamic of capitalism, which continues to ravage the planet and exploit us all for profit, is frankly misguided. Independence and self-determination is an illusion within capitalism. No amount of fervour for a Scottish republic can escape this reality. We cannot take our desires for reality within the world as it is.

#### DEMOCRACY IS AN ILLUSION

We are being positive in declaring these facts. To state that a devolved assembly or an independent Scotland can 'tame' capitalism and significantly alter our lives is "leading people up the garden path". Also, instead of manipulating people, as all Parties, the Left included, by presenting an incomplete picture of how we are able "to make a difference", we prefer to destroy illusions rather than foster them.

We live in a cynical age, it's hardly surprising given the bad reputation that anything political has, from corruption to atrocities. But being 'cynical' is a pattern of adjustment to life as it is. In this "post-modern era" it has become 'common sense' to do people down or act selfishly because nobody expects that people keep to an ethical, caring attitude, or if they do so, they have ulterior motives. Instead of cynicism, we offer skepticism and a streetwise realisation that we are all inherently equal as humans in a world we have no right to destroy. However, many of us are psychologically damaged and distorted in our actions by our adherence to an unjust world and all the false justifications that scapegoat people according to age, sexual preference, disability, gender and race/ethnicity/language. We are all individual and different and have great scope for a diverse contribution to the society around us. Our worth is distorted from childhood and this contributes to how difficult it is for all of us to throw off these shackles & bad attitudes. Don't let them ground you down!

#### STATES TERRORISE !

The perspective we have today has been trailblazed by others throughout history. In the past century, anarchists, anarcho-syndicalists, libertarian socialists, council communists, situationists and social ecologists have understood the merits of questioning Growth; mutual aid; no justice, no peace; class war against the boss class, etc.. While many made mistakes in this process, it has been the role of States and would-be-States (Parties) to distort this legacy. We are wise today that you cannot blow up a social relationship. However bad one tyrant is, liquidating them leads to another taking their place, accompanied by repression, while the population is mobilised against 'terrorism'. In youth it is easy to be impatient, but unless forced to by circumstances, you have to organise, despite setbacks, in an open way, conscious that tiny minorities cannot bounce people into a new society that is not their own making.

Our alternative isn't simply a 'talking shop'. Around the globe, resistance occurs to companies against exploitation of people and the environment. The example of the Zapatistas from the Chiapas province of Southern Mexico demonstrates that international solidarity can be generated using technology such as the internet to stimulate resistance and debate. Similarly, direct action and mass demonstrations - such as in Hyderabad, India - have occurred against the multilateral agreement on investment and the role of institutions such as the G8 summit, International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

We are not misguided to believe that all of those engaged in a wide variety of workplace, community and environmental struggles are united in support of a Declaration such as this. However, widespread realisation is growing that popular sentiment for self-determination, accountability, autonomy from manipulation, and so on, is limited if there is acceptance that the capitalist system is a fact of existence. Reforming capitalism other than superficially, is "pie in the sky".

This is the outlook we invite you to share. Those of us who are not distorted by purely selfish or egotistical motives, aspire for a better world for our children. Many of us, even those who have "given up on humanity" are outraged at the destruction of natural finite resources and the creatures that also inhabit this planet. We are all flawed, but we can raise ourselves from our condition by consciousness linked to action. There is no blueprint for change, but at least we have no more illusions !

There is no half-way house to social revolution. We are therefore not drawn into pressing for change which does not significantly undermine the global capitalist economy. National self-determination, even if expressed in an enlightened, liberal fashion, only alters life superficially. If you agree with this perspective we invite you to get in touch, and link up with us

Contacts: By mail:

CI [autonomy] c/o 28 King St., Glasgow G1 5QP

By e mail: radfest@yahoo.com

Web page: www.geocities.com/capitolhill/1931/radfest.html/

Phone: 0141-427-6398 apart from Monday nights between 7.45-8.45pm - 0141-552-5519.

You can fax 0141-810-3001 but no later than mid-afternoon 1st April.

Reading material : many of you will get this with *Counter Information* 52 to save mailing costs.

Note however, that the clydeside organisers are a more diverse group, the **anarchist circle**.

Refer also: *Class War* 73 "Open letter".  
info on eats, drinks etc to be incorporated







# days to save the planet and counting

## THE LIFE AND CRIMES OF KINGSTON BRIDGE





## SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SUBVERSIVE RAVERS

The next time you go to an after hours party where the music is wholly or predominantly characterised by a series of rhythmic or repetitive beats, consider the following. When the forces of their law and general biospherical disorder turn up, don't leave immediately. The party providers are risking a lot to put on the sounds, even if they are charging. Lend them a little support. No-one is asking you to get nicked at 5am on a Sunday, but if 500 people said "Go away officers, this is a happening do, man. Join the song and dance, don't ban it. Admit." Protect the rig. Don't riot, just don't stop dancing. KBC will be fund raising for a substantial kamikaze sound system. Come along to Clubversive and help us save up for it.

## TRAFFIC CHAOS ON THE M77

You thought they were just a bunch of tree hugging, dirty smelly hippies didn't you? Oh you didn't? You realised that when the Battle for Pollok Free State was in full swing that these tree huggers were actually highly motivated visionaries. How do we know this? They said that the M77 would soon clog up. The problem wasn't, and isn't the lack of roads, but the number of cars on the existing roads. Especially the number of cars with only one person in them. (Around 80% .) Check this fact out at your nearest traffic lights. Anyway, morning rush hour on the road to nowhere now backs up to Corkerhill. KBC is taking bets on how long it will take to back up to Darnley, and then to Newton Meams. It probably won't bother the Meamsytes because they can afford top of the range anti-pollution masks for themselves and their kids. Now our non-seeing, bribe-taking, alcoholic leaders have given the go ahead for a further 10 mile extension to the M77. Our guess is that they have shares in the Anti-pollution mask industry. Maybe

they'll land a hand with a fair swing of the pick-axe (after a few G&T's). Look out for some other unusual happenings on this road, and any others, in the coming months. Join in, have a laugh while you can. We have 9358 days to save the planet. KBC road reports.

## CRITICAL MASS - ReCycling the roads

Welcome back after the long winter recess CM folks - we've missed you! The Mass features add manner of people -powered transport taking a very leisurely ride through your choice of Glasgow's most scenic beauty spots; Sauchiehall Street, George Square, the Expressway, anywhere they feel like really.

**Meet on Saturday 26 April at 2pm**  
by the recycling point on the corner of  
**Byres Road & University Ave.**

This is easily recognisable as the site of the only cyclist friendly Advanced Stop Junction in Glasgow. Let's all sing thanks to our glorious City Council for their generosity. (Well, they were pretty skint after spending all that money on the "great value" M77 & you can't get to a Caribbean junket on a bike.)

## RECIPE OF THE MONTH -SCOTCH PANCAKES

A tasty and filling snack - Just the job for round the campfire after a hard day staying entirely within the law.

Ingredients ( for 6 pancakes):

1 cup of flour, 2 tablespoons of sugar,  
3/4 cup of milk.

What you do: Mix the sugar and flour together in a bowl and beat in the flour to form a thinish batter.

Heat a little oil in a frying pan until well hot.

Pour in some of the mixture & fry until the air bubbles have come through the top, then turn over and cook the other side.

Dish up and serve with whatever you can get together.

## A BIT OF POLITICS.

Way down south Uncle John decides that he doesn't want to be crime minister just now in case those nasty folks across the road start picking on his friends and accuse them of taking bribes to spout of in the world's oldest talking shop. You see the 30 grand WE pay them to ignore us just isn't enough when you consider all the drink, drugs, rent boys, mistresses (& their offspring) they have to support. Then there's the matter of time - they can't afford to arse around in Westminster when they have a legitimate arms tradi... er, business interests to be getting on with. Only the very fortunate, like Old Nick Soames and his infernal master get to do this on Company time. So we don't get to hear about what a bunch of corrupt and useless tossers they all are... they don't want us to get the wrong impression. Never mind, come May that nice man Big Brother Blair will be in charge and it'll all be alright. Won't it?

Meanwhile, back home, our beloved leaders continue to wield the axe. So it's adieu to advice centres for the homeless & those of us living in poverty. Who needs a Drop-In Centre for drugs rehabilitation and counselling when you can have a nice high profile media campaign instead. What's a few thousand jobs amongst friends. They are our friends. They like us. They like us to elect them so they can go about vital fact finding missions and drive around in their "very economical" limousines... we wouldn't want them to look cheap now would we?

**Democracy** *di-mok'ro-si n.* a form of government on which the supreme power is vested in the people collectively, and is administered to them by officers appointed by them. Seems strange that these democratically elected officers need to use public employees i.e. the police to "protect" them from the people who elected them. Mmmm... can't quite work that one out???

**KBC** This type of news reporting isn't unusual. It's inevitable. Isn't everything? We don't believe so. We don't believe that the spiral of economic, social and environmental decline is unstoppable. We do believe that by standing up to corrupt politicians, antiquated systems of government, and unaccountable multinational corporations we reclaim the future for ourselves and future generations of drinkers, lovers and revellers generally. We have no choice. At least, not if you want a choice. KBC advocates that we all are ALLOWED to choose from more than one type of potato (not a genetically altered one please). KBC advocates the use of public transport. KBC will be seen on the streets, will be heard on the airwaves, will be seen at all the best parties (that we find out about) and will continue to advocate a rise in the level of consciousness individuals, and consequently of the planet.

## POTENTIAL DEATH TRAPS

### On ecstasy

E- heads - 500,000 - 1993 figures

Deaths - 50 since 1988

Incidence - 1/80,000

### Cars

25,200,000

3,650 Deaths in 1994

Incidence - 1/694

### Police Custody

101,635 custody figures (Met 1994)

Deaths - 15 (1995)

Incidence - 1/6,776

### Alcohol

Drinkers - 41 Million (over 16)

Deaths - 25,000

incidence - 1/1,640

### Prison

Average daily population - 51,000

Deaths - 117 (1995)

Incidence - 1/436

### Cigarettes

12,600,000 smokers

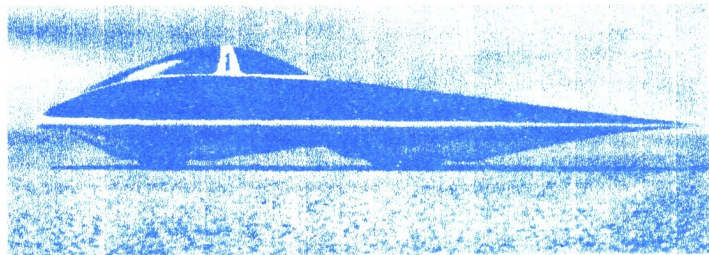
Deaths - 111,000 (1992)

Incidence - 1/114



***Okay, so here it is.***

No sexy models or groovy graphics. Just a car that runs on Sunlight. Made in the most technologically advanced country in the world.



***Impressive isn't it??***

They made it especially.  
So that those of us unlucky enough to be alive  
once the ozone layer's shot to fuck can drive  
through what used to be the countryside.

***I feel so good about it.***

What is this KBC nonsense? We're not sure but  
we kind of like it that way, Eventually though we'll  
have to define ourselves for the benefit of the  
media circus which we will generate. Come  
along to Clubversive & tell us what you think of  
us. Become a member - 1 member, 1 vote. Are  
we evolutionaries or are we numties? Again, we  
don't know but we're trying to find out. What we  
do know is that social change can be achieved in  
many ways. Come give KBC your news & views.

Fuck the system...Up the sound system.





## ALTERNATIVE WORLDS

CCA BRINGS A HOST OF WRITERS AND ACTIVISTS  
TO GLASGOW FOR A SERIES OF LECTURES AND  
DEBATE.

13/02/99 at 1pm

George McKay - Recent Counterculture

20/02/99 at 1pm (FREE)

ACE - short talks by a representative group from ACE

27/02/99 at 12pm

Camilla Berens - speaking on research into 90's activists

06/03/99 at 1pm

John Jordan - Reclaim the Street

13/03/99 at 12pm

Alex Plows - Play in the Twyford Down Cutting

20/03/99 at 1pm

Hillegonda Riteveld - speaking on dance culture

27/03/99 at 1pm

Alistair Currie - Animal Rights Activism

All Talks last approx 1hour, price £1.50 - for more info  
please contact Elaine Brown at CCA on 0141 332 7521

350 SAUCHIEHALL ST.

WANTED FOR ROBBERY



CHAMBERS LIVES UP TO  
HIS NAME - HE IS A PISS-POT!

THIS MAN IS A DANGER TO DECENT  
SCOTS. WATCH YOUR POCKETS WHEN  
HE'S AROUND!



WEST OF SCOTLAND

**water**

TORY GANGSTER STEALING OUR  
SCOTTISH WATER. KEEP AN EYE ON  
THIS SHARK! PAY NOTHING!

WATER MAN ... Ernie Chambers new quango boss Picture: BRIAN LOGUE

IS THE FRAUD SQUAD ASLEEP?



***clydeside workers support group***

organiser: Richie Venton, PO BOX 399, Glasgow G1 5BZ  
ring 0141 445 6450

Dear brother/sister,  
Find enclosed some leaflets for a special public meeting of the Clydeside Workers Support Group.

This is primarily to meet, hear and organise solidarity with sacked strikers from Tameside Care group in Manchester. These (mainly) women have been on an official strike since 30th March. On 1st May they are being sacked! They are members of UNISON and GMB.

Their case highlights several key issues common to all workers:

- \* the consequences of privatisation (they were transferred from local authority control in 1990).
- \* the appalling wages and need for a decent minimum wage.
- \* the need for the right to strike without fear of victimisation.

**Please attend this meeting, and use the leaflets to get oth-**

**ers to attend.**

Where possible, hold a collection at work to bring along.

**Send messages of protest to:**

Alan Firth, managing director  
Tameside Care Group,  
Enterprise House, Grange Road  
South, Hyde, Cheshire SK14  
5NY

**Send messages of support to:**

Noel Pine, Tameside UNISON  
secretary, 29 Booth Street,  
Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire  
OL6 7LB

The meeting is also on the issue of fighting for a decent national minimum wage for all over 16, one of the key battlegrounds right now.

I look forward to seeing you on Wednesday. Show your solidarity with workers in struggle.

Yours fraternally,  
Richie Venton.

**DEMO**

**Sunday 14th June, 12noon, George Square,**

● end slave labour

● for a decent minimum wage for all over 16

co-sponsored by Scottish Socialist Alliance; Scottish FBU; Liverpool dockers stewards; Glaciers stewards; Motherwell RMT

**CLYDESIDE WORKERS SUPPORT GROUP**  
*(incorporating Clydeside Dockers Support Group)*

**PUBLIC MEETING**

**Weds 6th May**

**7.30pm**

**Chambers Bar** (upstairs), George Square

**support sacked Tameside  
Care Group strikers!**

**end slave labour!**

**FOR A DECENT MINIMUM  
WAGE FOR ALL OVER 16**

speakers:

**Sacked, striking Tameside Care Worker  
Jimmy Friel** (president Scottish GPMU print union)  
**Richie Venton** (organiser Clydeside Workers Support Group)

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**Richie Venton** (organiser Clydeside Workers Support Group)



## **Tameside Care Workers sacked! for rejecting £2 an hour pay cuts**

*clydeside  
workers  
support  
group*

**On Mayday 400 low-paid care workers in Tameside, Manchester were sacked.** These workers are based in eleven residential care homes and one nursing home. Their crime?! They are striking against pay cuts of up to £2.08 an hour; loss of one week's holidays; and withdrawal of their sick pay scheme.

This on top of pay cuts of up to 35% in 1992 and no pay rise for 5 years!

### ***privatisation***

This is the consequence of privatisation. Bosses are hell-bent on making more and more profits, trying to batter workers into submission, leaving them in the pits of poverty ..... and to hell with the consequences for the elderly they care for.

**These low-paid, mainly female workers deserve your active solidarity in defence of their jobs, wages and conditions.**

**Attend and hear their case.**

Their case highlights the need for a decent national minimum wage for all over 16, without exceptions.

The government Low Pay Commission is soon to report on the minimum wage. All reports suggest New Labour plan a pathetic sop of around £3.50, leaving millions in poverty. They plan to exclude trainees of all ages, and under 26s.

**A minimum wage of £6 an hour is entirely justified.** It is the European Decency Threshold wage, and only represents two-thirds male median earnings. It is peanuts compared to the obscene wealth revealed in the *Sunday Times* Rich List.

As an absolute bottom line, there should be no retreat by the unions on the STUC demand for £4.62, as an immediate first step.

Come to join the campaign on this.

### **DEMO**

**Sunday 14th June, 12noon, George Square,**

● end slave labour

● for a decent minimum wage for all over 16  
co-sponsored by Scottish Socialist Alliance; Scottish FBU; Liverpool dockers stewards; Glaciers stewards; Motherwell RMT

**join the *Clydeside Workers Support Group***  
**name.....phone.....**

**address.....**

**return to: CWSG, PO BOX 399, Glasgow G1 5BZ  
or ring Richie Venton on 0141 445 6450**

# Scottish Anarchist Gathering



Saturday, 30th August, 1997.  
11.30am to 5pm,

Kinning Park Complex,  
Glasgow.

(directly across from Kinning Park  
underground station)



This gathering is an attempt to reorganise Scottish wide networking. In the light of the recent last issue of Class War we will hopefully take the time to learn past mistakes and build a network which will have a lasting impact in the class struggle in Scotland.

The day will be in four sections:

- 11.30 - 12.00: Introduction and welcome.
- 12.00 - 2.00: Session 1  
**Scottish Anarchism - the last 10 years.**  
The pros and cons of Scottish Anarchism over the last ten years. Discussion related to the recent last issue of Class War and the points it raises for libertarians. Learning the mistakes of the past?
- 2.00 - 2.30: Break
- 2.30 - 4.30: Session 2  
**Scottish Anarchism - the next 10 years.**  
How to network in the future. What struggles to get involved in. How to attract and keep people. How to sustain momentum and build upon success. Representatives of current struggles reporting on their experiences. How can we build a Scottish network which will last?
- 4.30 - 5.00: Plenum and conclusion.
- There will be a informal social event later in the night. Details to be confirmed.
  - On Sunday, 31st of August there is going to be a STUC festival which we are planning to go to have a good time at and perhaps leaflet. Another good reason to stay over in Glasgow!
  - If you need overnight accomodation or a creche place let us know as soon as possible.

**Glasgow Anarchists**  
**Box A**  
**c/o Fahrenheit 541,**  
**Virginia Galleries,**  
**Virginia Street,**  
**Glasgow, G1.**

**e-mail : [anarcho@geocities.com](mailto:anarcho@geocities.com)**  
**telephone : 0141 353 2199**  
**pager : 0336 754257**

#### **Other Events:**

17th August, 1997  
**Reclaim the Streets Demo**  
Edinburgh  
(phone 0131 557 6242)

24th August, 1997  
**Liverpool Dockers Solidarity Gig**  
Jo Brand and Bruce Morton  
Tron Theatre,  
Glasgow.

18th October 1997  
**Anarchist Bookfair**  
Conway Hall,  
Red Lion Square,  
London WC1.  
(nearest tube Holburn)

# THE CENTRE 103 BROUGHTON STREET

Tel. 031 557 0718

cheap cafe free tea and coffee rooms for use by community groups  
children's playroom community arts photographic darkroom info point  
advice & solidarity on benefits, VAT on fuel, racism, poll/council tax, other problems

Open meetings every Tuesday 6pm

Open to the public 12 - 4pm Monday - Saturday (cafe 12 - 3)

Open for booking rooms for meetings and events - daytime, evenings and weekends, by arrangement

The Centre is a community centre for the Broughton area and beyond - and we want you to get involved in using it and running it.

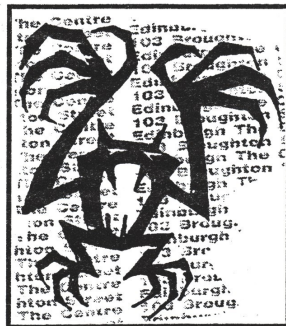
All the services listed above are up and running now. But they're just a start. We invite everyone, and especially local residents, to start your activities in your centre.

Whether it's a social event, an arts event, a meeting, a jumble sale, a creche, a rehearsal or a play - the Centre can provide the space. And at a special reduced rate for unfunded community groups.

## Children welcome!

We are especially keen for our purpose built creche to be used by parent and toddler groups and for child care generally. We intend to start a series of courses and classes - if there's anything you'd like to learn - or to teach - please get in touch. Several community arts street events have been created from the Centre recently - and more are planned, including children's activities. Contact us if you're interested.

The Centre is firmly on the side of people working for social justice. In addition to giving advice on benefits and other problems, the Centre is a resource and base for local



community action, anti VAT on Fuel campaigners, claimants and unemployed resistance, environmental activists, anti racism and anti fascism, gay groups, rank and file workers and many more.

The Centre is collectively run by the volunteers who staff it. We're looking for more volunteers so come along, get involved and have your say.

## Eviction threat

This new community centre has been created through the cooperation of the former volunteers of the Edinburgh Unemployed Workers Centre and the New Town Broughton and Pilrig Community Council.

The Community Council applied to Lothian Regional Council to take out an interim lease on 103 Broughton Street

to follow on immediately from the old lease to the Unemployed Workers Centre, which expired on 14 June. This was to ensure that all the Centre's activities continued - and expanded - while a new charitable body was formed to take out a longer term lease on the premises.

But Lothian Region have so far refused to consider the Community Council application - stating that their first objective is to evict the volunteer workers in the Centre who are keeping all the Centre's services running!

## For everyone

The Centre is a resource for the whole community. We must not let Lothian Region close it down. Instead we call on the Region to grant a lease immediately to New Town, Broughton and Pilrig Community Council.

You can help keep the Centre open. We want more groups and individuals to use the Centre. We need more volunteers. We need people to help staff the Centre - we are currently here 24 hours a day to make sure Lothian Region don't close it down. And we need people who are willing to answer an emergency call to stop any eviction attempt.

- \* Pledge your support to stop any eviction and keep the Centre open. Call in or ring 557 0718.
- \* Write to Cnllr. Milligan, Lothian Regional Council, Parliament Square, Edinburgh to urge Lothian Region to accept the Community Council's proposal.
- \* Voice your support in the local media.



# Scottish anarchist federation

(working title)

**Appeal to all anarchists and autonomous revolutionaries to come to the aid of The Centre !**

On Saturday 25th June, anarchists from Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee and Falkirk district assembled at short notice. The purpose was to show our solidarity with the Edinburgh Unemployed Workers Centre which is under occupation by the users in defiance of the Labour Council's intention to terminate their lease.

Two spokespersons for The Centre, Eddie and Cloudberry, explained the necessity for keeping the centre open, the record of resistance associated with the centre, the role of the ex paid worker and two Councillors in removing resources, and the campaign of misinformation waged by certain figures on the Social Work Committee, and the new initiatives now launched such as the vegan cafe, bookstore, meeting place which are strengthening the ties with the Broughton-New Town community. The Centre is under 24 hour occupation by voluntary workers.

Although recent support for the fight to keep The Centre open has come from Malcolm Chisolm, the left wing Labour M.P. from Leith, the Broughton Community Council and local papers such as the "Broughton Spurtle", the users group running the centre are determined to preserve the identity of the place as an international social centre promoting resistance to capitalism, while campaigning against racism and fascism, sexism, attacks on the unwaged etc..

It was decided, after a series of discussions designed to examine ways of increasing our links and sense of solidarity, to call for a mobilisation of all Anarchists and libertarian socialists in Scotland to demonstrate our opposition to the Council, should current eviction proceedings lead to Court Action to enforce the removal of the occupiers. Since such Court Action isn't yet initiated in mid July it was decided to proceed with a follow up conference on Saturday 6th August. The afternoon conference would have 3 sessions, a social to follow, and an 'action' the next day to reclaim use of space for picnics etc in anticipation of the future Criminal Justice Act.

We also decided to create a Scottish anarchist federation, built initially around the pressing need to mobilise to defend the centre. We also intend to link up throughout Scotland, while increasing our international ties etc.. This letter is intended to bring this urgent matter again to your attention and highlight the need to put aside inertia and sectarianism, and join arms in The Centre's 'hour of need'.

## **Their fight is our fight !**

## **The struggle continues !**

**Stop Press :** At a Social Work Committee meeting, Tuesday 28th June, the Centre's users were given an ultimatum to move out or else the proposed transfer of lease to the Community Council wouldn't be considered. Meanwhile the eviction threat/ proceedings continue. The Council have gave no definitive guarantee to the Community Council about 'taking over' and no assurance to stop eviction proceedings to allow this to happen.

### **Proposed Agenda for Saturday 6th August**

- From 11.30am. Snacks available to 12-1pm. Creche available 1-6pm, users need to ph 031-557-0718 by 4th Aug
- 1 - 2.30pm Discussion on Criminal Justice Bill & implications for direct action Edinburgh & Glasgow introductions. 2.30 - 2.45pm Short break for leg stretching & tea etc.
- 2.45 - 4.15pm Discussion on Unemployed and wage labour struggles. Andy of Dundee to introduce.
- 4.15 - 4.30pm Another short break !
- 4.30 - 6.15pm Session on the Federation:-
- 1 To reaffirm our intention to mobilise to defend The Centre & federation contacts when threatened.
  - 2 Proposal, Mike (Ed.) name should include reference to Autonomous revolutionaries after Scottish Federation of anarchists (and.....)
  - 3 Proposal, Eddie (Ed.) the SAF/SFAAR should have a paper/magazine (perhaps developing out of the Anarchist Review to be published late August in Glasgow ?)
  - 4 To coordinate a series of speaking tours with public meetings to promote our ideas. Examples could include Lorenzo Komboa Ervin from New York Black Cross & McLibels defendants.
  - 5 To assemble a minimum Aims & Principles (basis of agreement) Robert L / Iain (Glas.)

**Correspondence**  
**to G.A.G., PO Box**  
**1008 Glasgow**  
**G42 8AA.**  
**tel 041-427-6380**  
**or 031-557-0718.**

# LABOUR SCREW

We have heard many people in Castlemilk say that they think our local Labour councillors are two-faced. We refuse to believe this. After all, if they had two faces would they wear the ones shown below!

It's possible however that some of their actions could be interpreted as hypocritical by the ungrateful, - but you can judge from the facts below.

**Regional Councillor  
JOHN FITCH**



"Who is this guy?" might be your reaction to Councillor Fitch. Many people in Castlemilk say they have never heard of anything he has done - good or bad.

However some local folk who tried to start a Community Paper for Castlemilk have heard of him. They proposed starting a paper which would have provided 8 new jobs in Castlemilk. Fitch and the other councillors of both parties blocked the project.

Could this be because they did not want an independent newspaper that would allow people to criticise them?

## Councillor who 'jumped the queue'

ONE MAN who got a house after his application had gone through the powerful sub-committee which looks after special housing cases was George Manson - himself a leading Glasgow councillor and a member of the committee. And former housing boss Ronald Gordon said that the award of a three-apartment flat in Castlemilk to 59-year-old widower Manson meant he had jumped a queue of 22 tenants with better qualifications.

Friday, May 6, 1977 EVENING TIMES

Said Mr Gordon - "I knew it was wrong, and the committee knew it was wrong, but as an official I couldn't say anything, and officials don't have votes."

"As a single man, Mr Manson should not have been allocated a three-apartment house. Some of his fellow Labour councillors were a bit worried because they thought he would be found out, but the sub-committee's decisions are final and require no ratification."

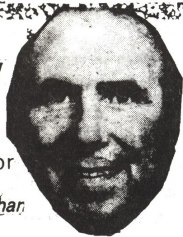
**George  
Manson**



**district  
councillor**

**PAT LALLY**

**district  
councillor**



"I am cleaner than clean"

Peoples' memories are short. Ex-Councillor Lally is back as a Castlemilk Councillor.

Remember the Cantley Housing Scandal of 1977? Councillors Cantley and Lally conspired to get a house for Mrs Cantley's son. "There was an arrangement between us," said Councillor Cantley.

There was a scandal and police investigations into housing irregularities.

Lally was suspended by the

Lally was again in the public eye in 1980. The police investigated a social club he was involved in.

Community groups complained that they had never received any of the profits from the club.

"I am cleaner than clean" he told the Daily Record, but he would resign from the club, he explained later.

Manson: Number of years as a councillor 10yrs. expenses claimed April '81-Jan '82 £2492.  
Lally : Number of years as a councillor 12yrs. expenses claimed June '81-Jan '82 £2471.  
Figures are approximate. We could not get the figures for Fitch.

Number of years Castlemilk has been in existence 26 years.

No pubs (except of course the Labour club), no restaurants, no cinemas, no bingo, no theatre, no discos, no places for gigs, no sports centre, no health centre, no local job centre or D.H.S.S.

What have we got? A crummy shopping arcade, crummy housing, and a crummy (and expensive bus service). Oh, and of course, last but not least Councillors Fitch, Manson and Lally. Ain't we lucky?





## What's All This About?

### Labour Con

This leaflet was produced by anarchists and socialists in Castlemilk for two reasons.

1. To counter an obnoxious piece of Labour Party propaganda called "Labour's View", which was published by some people in the Labour Party. "Labour's View" bums up the councillors and implies that they are involved in many things that are happening in Castlemilk. Our leaflet states some facts the councillors would probably like us to forget. If you have't yet seen "Labour's View", try and get a copy- it's good for a laugh if nothing else.

2. We want to show people in Castlemilk that there is an alternative to placing your trust- and your lives in the hands of politicians of any party. The Labour Party wants you to get rid of the Tories and to put Labour back in power. They are always telling us how bad the Tory Government is. Ofcourse the Tory Government is bad,- ALL GOVERNMENTS ARE BAD When Labour were last in power did rents go up or down? Did rates go up or down, did transport fares go up or down? did food prices go up or down? Did heating costs go up or down? Did you have the kind of life- the quality of life- you would have liked to have had? If we (you and I) had to organise all the things we need to live, would we do it in the worst ways possible? That's what Governments, M.P.'s councillors seem to manage to do- they give us a kind of life we are not happy with. Dont Vote, dont give away your power, Join us and start organising your life today.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 \* you can contact us at: \*  
 \* box 3, 4888 gt. western road, \*  
 \* glasgow g12 \*  
 \* \*\*\*\*\*



"ANOTHER PROFOUND ISSUE OF BURNING COMPLEXITY BEING THRASHED OUT BY THE LABOUR CLUB COMMITTEE"



**HURRY OFFER MUST FINISH SHORTLY**

MICHAEL FOOT TALKING DOLL  
(Limps realistically!)

SAYS:

"No you can't join my party!"  
 "Tories out, Labour in!"  
 "No return to the thirties" and not much more.  
 So lifelike it's frightening! Almost (but not quite) human.  
 COMES IN ATTRACTIVE GIFT BOX.

# LABOUR'S VIEW



Regional Councillor  
JOHN FITCH



## THE FITCH FILE

More good news for the area, particularly for the youngsters. The site next to the Castlemilk Community Centre is going to be turned into an all-weather sports facility.

Many other projects have been carried out in the area, including the provision of controlled entries at the Aged Couples' flats. This is the system where the visitor rings a number, and the person in the flat can ask the caller to identify themselves before pressing the switch to unlock the door.

## HALL FOR ALL

Another major scheme in the area, and perhaps the most important, is the provision of the Tenants' Hall in Scarrel Drive.

Once again this took a number of years to materialise. Tenants' associations at Machrie and Tormusk had requested huts or halls for the area, and while councillor Manson was unable to get a hall for both areas, he did manage to get one for Castlemilk, which has been sited at Scarrel.

This hall is large enough to house a badminton court, and is accessible to the disabled. The hall cost around £270,000 and it is hoped to get a number of clubs for the youths in the area.

George  
Manson  
district  
councillor



## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS

The largest scheme underway in the area at the moment is the environmental improvements in the Tormusk/Scarrel area.

These are as a result of effort by district councillor George Manson, supported by the local tenant's association and the housing department.

The whole of this area was canvassed some eight or nine years ago, and the residents stated what they wanted. The highest priority was for back doors on the closes, with the next being the provision of a drying area which could be seen from the windows.

The refuse bins were also considered to be too large, and individual bins preferred. There was also a need for toddlers' play areas, and these have all been provided for under Phase I and II. The project has cost over £1.2 million.

## ON CASTLEMILK

### ★ £100,00 in grants ★

£100,000 in grants have been allocated for Castlemilk East, and Ardencraig Road is being resurfaced.

With the aid of an Urban Aid grant from the Regional Council the Ardencraig action group converted three houses, providing a library, rest room for the senior citizens, as well as an information room with a public telephone.

★  
*It is hoped to convert St Dominic's Annexe into a community centre with the help of Urban Aid grants.*

**What A Pantomime –  
and what  
a wicked  
witch!**



**But  
have  
a good  
Xmas**



## VOICE of the TIMES

### Prudent and wise

*That is what good local government is all about. In both decisions, Strathclyde reveals again why this region has been one of the great success stories of reorganisation.*

#### Training

On the same day another committee gave in to the parents and pupils of Adelphi school in Garbods and keep it open despite its falling roll.

Then they go one better and propose that empty classrooms should be used for a workshop and training facilities for the young unemployed of this none too prosperous neighbourhood.

Parents wishes are respected, a community school is preserved, youngsters are helped to train for and find jobs. And they still manage to save us money.

A prudent and wise day's work.



## STRATHCLYDE CARES

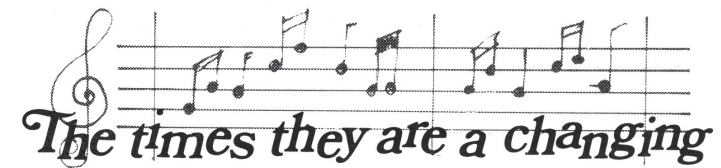
### HELP FOR THE HANDICAPPED

From June of this year handicapped people attending Social Work Centres, special schools, and adult training centres, have been eligible to be included in the Concessionary Ticket Scheme.

We have been able to extend this excellent service in spite of Government cuts which have stopped us doing more.

### AND THE BLIND

A specialist team has been set up to improve services to the blind and partially sighted. The team will include welfare officers, a mobility officer, and clerical staff. It will be run by our Social Work Department.



Strathclyde Regional Council's record has been one of the successes of local government. Even the enemies of the Labour Party agree that Strathclyde is a well run council.

Our record is a good one, and we are particularly proud of the Social Work Department's care of the less fortunate. This can be judged from the number of yellow and blue vehicles being used to transport the elderly, disabled and handicapped to day centres, education centres, therapy centres and schools for the handicapped.

## COME AND JOIN US Join the Labour Party to-day —

Write to: Cambuslang — John McGuinness, 44 Langcroft Drive, Tel: 641-9244

Toryglen — Donald McGregor, 61 Cathkin Road, Battlefield. Tel: 649-6913

Rutherglen — Tommy McAvooy, 86 Fernhill Road, Tel: 634-3421

Mrs. Helen Walker  
150 Croftfoot Road, Castlemilk G45  
Tel: 634-3564

## JOB CREATION

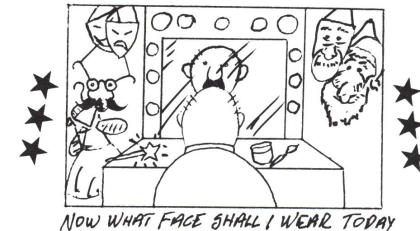
A major new initiative to reduce unemployment in Strathclyde is to be launched by the Regional Council. They plan to create 2000 new jobs with the help of the European Social Fund.

This would involve the Council and the Fund jointly financing a scheme to encourage small firms to take on additional labour. It would be a positive contribution by Labour Strathclyde to bringing down the dreadful unemployment caused by this Tory Government.

## HOCUS FOCUS !

Local people have continually caught out the Liberals for falsely claiming the credit for the achievements of others. Their propaganda leaflet, "Focus", is now infamous for claiming the credit for almost anything good that happens these days.

The leaflet has acquired a reputation of claiming credit for other's efforts. It has angered many people by these tactics and it is getting to the stage where the Liberals will say anything for a vote. DON'T BE TAKEN IN.



## T.O.A.R.S. radio taxis

550 taxis in all areas  
all taxis and drivers fully licensed and insured

Phone: 332 7070  
641 2281/2 647 4388/9



## U N E M P L O Y E D ?

Fortunate working persons, with their Unions, strikes and demonstrations, can usually obtain much of what they demand. We unemployed are unorganized, inactive and voiceless. I think it is time we stood up to be counted. If you agree, then:-

Let us all do a "walk-about" in one's, two's, or three's through our local main streets (and near large work-places at stopping time) every WEDNESDAY between 3pm and 6pm, with the one word "UNEMPLOYED" printed on cardboard and hung back and front from shoulders.

When this action is taken up by about One Million on the streets of Britain, Government (of any colour), Unions, Employers and Workers will not forget our plight and be forced into arranging to share out the overall work which is presently available in the Nation.

No parading. No loitering. No obstructing.

See you all, every WEDNESDAY  
and, Good Luck!

Percy Vickery  
Unemployed Person.



## *why a labour committee on ireland ?*

The Glasgow branch of the 'Labour Committee on Ireland' was set up over the summer holidays this year. Since then it has:

- produced a monthly newsletter,
- got speakers into seven Labour Party branches and one L.P.Y.S. branch,
- supported the Glasgow 2 Defense Campaign (in defense of two sellers of the newspaper 'Fight Racism, Fight Imperialism', who were arrested under the Prevention of Terrorism Act) and got motions passed condemning the arrests and calling for the dropping of all charges in three L.P. branches, one G.M.C. and one Y.S. branch,
- in connection with the campaign for political status, the Glasgow L.C.I. has done a mailing to all C.L.P.s in Scotland calling for support for the prisoners' demand for political status and raised the issue in a dozen L.P. branches; the L.C.I. also works in the 'Scottish Hunger-Strike Action Committee' and has helped organise its street-leafletting, public rallies, meetings and demonstrations,
- Glasgow L.C.I. is also organising a fringe-meeting on Ireland at the Scottish Labour Party Conference next March, and has platform speakers at today's day-school and at the day-school being held in February by the Stirling C.L.P.

The task confronting the 'Labour Committee on Ireland' (L.C.I.) is to build an anti-imperialist movement in the labour movement. Despite 11 years having passed since the Army's return to the streets of the Six Counties, the majority of the British labour movement still fails to understand that the 'troubles' in Ireland are in fact a struggle for national liberation.

Instead, the majority of the British working-class still regards the Six Counties as part of Great Britain, still believes that the Army's withdrawal would be followed by a bloodbath, still sees the Army as a neutral peace-keeping force, and still regards the Provisional I.R.A. and the Irish National Liberation Army as 'common criminals' and psychopaths.

Such ideas can be changed only by consistent work in the labour movement on a clear class-basis. The message that has to be got across is that the struggle for national liberation in Ireland is an inseparable part of the overall struggle for socialism in both Ireland and Britain.

In Ireland, the Border and the British occupation divides the working-class and thereby holds back the cause of workers' unity, without which a successful struggle for socialism is impossible. And in Britain, the failure of the labour movement to mobilise against the oppression of the Irish people by British imperialism has held it back in its own struggles against the British ruling classes.

The L.C.I. originated inside of the Labour Party and thereby represents the first anti-imperialist campaign launched within the political wing of the British labour movement since the Partition of Ireland. The base which the L.C.I. has already established in the Labour Party must be built upon. And at the same time the L.C.I. must put down roots in the trade-unions and organise in the labour movement as a whole.

To those already active about the war in Ireland, but not yet members of the Labour Party, we say that the refusal to join the Labour Party is self-defeating sectarianism. If a Labour Party branch or constituency calls for 'troops out now', then it would be welcomed as a gain. So why wait passively for such events, when you could be in the Labour Party fighting to win branches and constituencies over to anti-imperialist policies?

To those already in the Labour Party, but not yet active about the Irish war, we say that that war is one of the major issues confronting the British working-class today. The major argument put forward in the Labour Party when the issue of Ireland is raised, is: 'don't touch Ireland, it'll only cost us votes'. But the job of socialists is not working out how to pick up a few extra votes; the job of socialists is to campaign for socialist policies. And that means campaigning for an immediate end to all forms of British interference in Ireland.

The 'Labour Committee on Ireland' is the only organisation seriously campaigning in the labour movement against British imperialism in Ireland. The L.C.I. exists in order to mobilise the British labour movement in support of Ireland's right to freedom from imperialist oppression. If you are prepared to work to help us fulfil that task, then join us today.

I would like to join the 'Labour Committee on Ireland'

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

C.L.P. ....

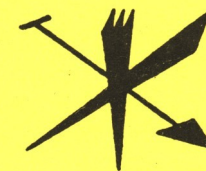
Trade Union.....

Return form (with £1 membership fee) either to any member of the L.C.I. or to: L.C.I., C/O 5 Stamford Hill, London N.16.





# LABOUR COMMITTEE ON IRELAND



HONORARY PRESIDENT: JOAN MAYNARD MP

## TIME FOR A CHANGE IN POLICY

There is no distinct Labour Party policy on Ireland. We only have something which can, at best, be described as a policy of drift, or at worst as a slavish acceptance of the Tory policy of support for the re-establishment of one party rule by right wing Ulster Unionists.

This is the reality of the so-called bipartisan policy.

The Labour Committee on Ireland is campaigning vigorously to have the Party adopt a distinct Labour Party policy on Ireland.

We are an organisation of individual members of the Labour Party containing many strands of opinion, united in the belief that the Party must address itself to the real problem, which is not how we can cling to power in Ireland, but rather how we can relinquish it.

In just the first few months of the committee's existence there have been the following notable developments:

- A breakthrough in getting the 1979 Labour Party conference to debate our involvement in Ireland.
- Greater London Labour Party voted

by a ten to one majority for an end to the bipartisan policy and a commitment to withdrawal.

- Labour Committee on Ireland hold national founding conference with over a hundred Party members in attendance, the majority of them delegates.
- Scottish Labour Party conference pass motion calling for an end to the bipartisan policy.
- Joan Maynard, MP and NEC member, agrees to become honorary President of the LCI. Messages of support have been received from MPs, MEPs, NEC members, and leading trade unionists from Britain and Ireland.
- Regional organisations of the LCI are being set up in the West Midlands, Scotland, South Wales, Bristol, Leicester and Manchester.
- Many CLPs pass motions in line with LCI policy and request speakers or affiliation.
- Twenty motions and amendments on the 1980 LP conference agenda, *sixteen* of which are variations of LCI policy.

★ JOIN US ★

The basic aims of the L.C.I. are summarised in our resolution to Labour Party Conference overleaf.



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## WHAT THE LCI STANDS FOR

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This Conference recognises the evidence that the clear popular wish of the Irish people favours a British withdrawal from Ireland and progress towards a united Ireland.

Furthermore, it recognises that British involvement in Ireland constitutes a major obstacle to developments towards socialism in that country.

Conference therefore:

- (a) Rejects the current bi-partisan policies of the Parliamentary Labour Party leadership;
- (b) Repudiates the policies of successive British governments which have effectively guaranteed the right of veto to the Unionist minority in Ireland, thereby ensuring that the present disastrous situation remains unresolved;
- (c) Feels that effective communication between British and Irish working class organisations is essential and urges that measures be taken to ensure that British trade unionists and Labour Party members are provided with accurate information about the views of their Irish counterparts;
- (d) Instructs the Labour Party leadership to adopt a policy favouring political and military withdrawal from Ireland;
- (e) Calls on the next Labour Government to immediately begin the process of this full political and military withdrawal;
- (f) Calls on the next Labour Government to repeal the Prevention of Terrorism Act;
- (g) Calls for political status for prisoners in H Block and Armagh gaol.

Furthermore, Conference calls on the National Executive Working Party on Northern Ireland to include the above proposals as its terms of reference for its researches and final report.

- 
- Any affiliate body of the Labour Party can affiliate to the LCI for £2, individual Party members £1. Send details and cheque to the address below. If you wish to book a speaker, or take copies of *Labour and Ireland* to sell (price 10p each, no postage on bulk orders), please contact the Secretary at the address below.

LCI,  
c/o 5 Stamford Hill  
London N16

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### I WOULD LIKE TO JOIN/ FIND OUT ABOUT THE L.C.I.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

.....  
ORGANISATION.....



## speakers & themes

JANET HASSAN, psychologist, with a career in teaching, therapy, and training. 'The distance between people and politics is widening. Right and left bark at each other, they engage in ineffective verbal snowballing, and refuse to confront the real issues.'

BOB TAIT, former editor, Scottish International, writer, lecturer in Aberdeen College of Education. He will discuss the way education contributes to divisions in Scottish society, weaknesses in our intellectual life, and how our attention is diverted from the state of our own culture.

JULIE DAVIDSON is well-known as a Scotsman columnist and persistent observer of social attitudes between men and women in Scotland.

MARGARET MARSHALL was involved in Aberdeen People's Press, in women's studies, and is co-author of a report on the workings of the Equal Pay and Sex Discrimination Acts. She is WEA District Secretary in the north of Scotland. Julie and Margaret together will look at women's experience of oppression in Scotland, and discuss their expectations of political change.

JIM YOUNG, lecturer in Scottish History at Stirling University, will look at current issues of cultural dependency, inarticulacy, and women's oppression, against their historical backgrounds.

COLIN KIRKWOOD, WEA Tutor Organiser, previously involved in community action in Glasgow, will discuss some of Tom Leonard's work in a transcription of Glasgow speech.

Organised by the WEA, South-East Scotland District, Riddle's Court, 322 Lawnmarket, Edinburgh. Telephone 031 226 3456

**WORKERS EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION**

# **CULTURAL OPPRESSION IN SCOTLAND**

**WEEKEND CONFERENCE IN EDINBURGH**

**10 & 11 NOVEMBER 1978**

**ALL WELCOME**

**DETAILS INSIDE**



it the English ? Is it men ? Is it the  
ather ? Is it capitalism ? Is it Calvinism ?  
it authoritarianism / sexual repression /  
e education system / the hierarchical  
ganisation of society ? Do we have a 'fear  
freedom' ?

ots have always identified economic or  
litical problems without difficulty. But we  
more or are uneasy with cultural matters -  
ings like language, social and sexual  
lationships, attitudes. There is a certain  
barrassment, particularly among men, about  
e very use of a word like 'oppression'.

e aim of this conference is to explore  
me of these cultural factors, and to ask :  
at can we do about them ? There will be  
enty of time to respond to the views of the  
eakers, and to put forward your own.

ere will be a CRECHE on the Saturday, from  
.00 till 5.15, but not on Friday evening.

e Friday evening session will be followed  
a party in Calton Studios.

## PROGRAMME

Friday 10 November  
in Calton Studios, 24 Calton Road, Edinburgh

- 7.00 pm Arrive
- 7.30 CLICHES OR CONCEPTS IN  
A SCOTTISH SETTING  
Janet Hassan
- 8.40 EDUCATION AND THE STATE OF  
SCOTTISH CULTURE  
Bob Tait
- 10.00 Party (Bar and food available)

Saturday 11 November  
in St. Ann's Community Centre, Cowgate

- 10.00am Coffee
- 10.30 WOMEN AGAIN  
Julie Davidson and Margaret Marshall
- 1.00 - 2.00 Lunch break (own arrangements)
- 2.00 CAPITALISM, LANGUAGE, AND  
THE SCOTTISH IDENTITY  
Jim Young
- 3.15 LANGUAGE AND MALE ATTITUDES IN  
TOM LEONARD'S POETRY  
Colin Kirkwood
- 4.00 FINAL SESSION  
Drawing things together, and asking  
what can be done ?
- 5.00 CLOSE

-----TEAR OFF REGISTRATION SLIP-----

If you wish to attend the conference, please complete this slip and return it to WEA, Riddle's Court, 322 Lawnmarket, Edinburgh, to arrive by November 8th at the latest. The FEE is £1.50 per person, and it should be enclosed (cheques and POs payable to WEA and crossed). There will be no charge for the creche.

Name/s :

Address :

Phone :

Number and ages of children :

(only if you intend to use the creche)

(Babies should be accompanied by food and changes.)



WORKERS  
EDUCATIONAL  
ASSOCIATION  
**FESTIVAL**

EDINBURGH 25 26 27 MAY 1978

MOST EVENTS ARE FREE



THURSDAY  
25 MAY

## State or Community ?

Would the creation of a separate Scottish state solve our problems? Or do we need a more radical solution? For Welsh nationalists "a free nation is a community of communities." The purpose of nationalism is not just to end subordination to a larger state but to dismantle the state itself.

Speakers - JOHN OSMOND, author of Creative Conflict (a book on Welsh devolution), GORDON BROWN, editor of the Red Paper on Scotland, and GAVIN KENNEDY, editor of The Radical Approach.

7.30 p.m. Riddle's Court

FRIDAY  
26 MAY

## The Trial of John Maclean

Songs, poems, readings and speeches to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the greatest political trial of the century - with Nan Milton, Harry McShane, Hamish Henderson, Thurso Berwick, Alastair MacDonald, Susan and Jimmy Ross, and David Anderson. Produced by David McLennan.

Two performances: 7.30 & 9.15 pm  
Calton Studios, 263 Calton Road.  
Tickets 75p

11.00 p.m. Film: "Battleship Potemkin". Tickets £1

EVENTS OF

## HEALTH & SAFETY

With new regulations in October giving rights to Safety Reps, health and safety is now a major part of Trade Union organisation. It comes at a time of wage restraint and productivity deals. Is there a connection? What will management's response be? What part can area H.&S. groups play? These are some of the questions that will be raised by CHARLIE CLUTTERBUCK of Hazards Bulletin.

10.00 a.m. Riddle's Court

## Edinburgh Labour History

There was -and is- more to the Scottish labour movement than Red Clydeside. In this session IAN MacDOUGAL (Scottish Lab. Hist. Soc.) discusses the General Strike in Edinburgh and TOM MURRAY (International Brigade veteran) talks about Spain and Spanish Solidarity in the city. Chairperson - JACK KANE

10 a.m. Riddle's Court

## COMMUNITY ACTION

Starts with exhibits by local groups from Edinburgh and other areas, also films of local campaigns. Followed by a debate: where is the community movement going? People will be coming from tenants associations, action groups, dampness and modernisation campaigns, summer play-schemes, community newspapers. Buses available - if you want a lift, contact the Community Workers, c/o TWIN, 225-4606, before 21 May. 10 am Riddles Court



N SATURDAY

27 MAY

## UNION MAIDS

This film tells the story of the fight to form industrial unions in America in the 30's and 40's. The heroines are Stella, Sylvia and Kate. A realistic sense of the period is created by the use of rare historical film and labour songs. The film is a tribute to the courage and power of working-class women everywhere.

Discussion led by Margaret Wilson of the STUC.

2.30 p.m. Riddle's Court 20p

## Poems and Songs about People

If you think poetry's got nothing to do with you, come and hear a poem called WE ARE THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD by ten-year-old Edinburgh kids. Other poems and songs about dogs, pubs, jeely pieces, lies, Princes Street, the broo, love, accidents, red yoyos, miners, snack bars, and pie in the sky ....

Guest readers - Tom Leonard and Liz Lochhead.

2.00 p.m. Riddle's Court

## POLITICS OF FOOD

Famines, price rises, lay-offs in the bread industry, the quality of food, butter mountains - all make headline news. What are the connections? Population? Climate? Resources? Profit? CHARLIE CLUTTERBUCK tries to make sense of the crazy world of food.

4.30 p.m. Riddle's Court

## CAFE

Riddle's Court

At the hub of the Festival, the cafe will open at 9.00 am and stay open until 5.00 pm, serving tea, coffee and snacks.

## CRECHE

A creche for young children will be available in Riddle's Court between 9.30 am and 5.00 pm. There will be no charge.

## EXHIBITIONS

W.E.A. BOOKSTALL

OPEN UNIVERSITY

CITIZENS' RIGHTS OFFICE

ADULT LITERACY

TRADE UNION EMBLEMS

WOMEN'S GROUPS

FIRST OF MAY BOOKS

TRADES COUNCIL

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

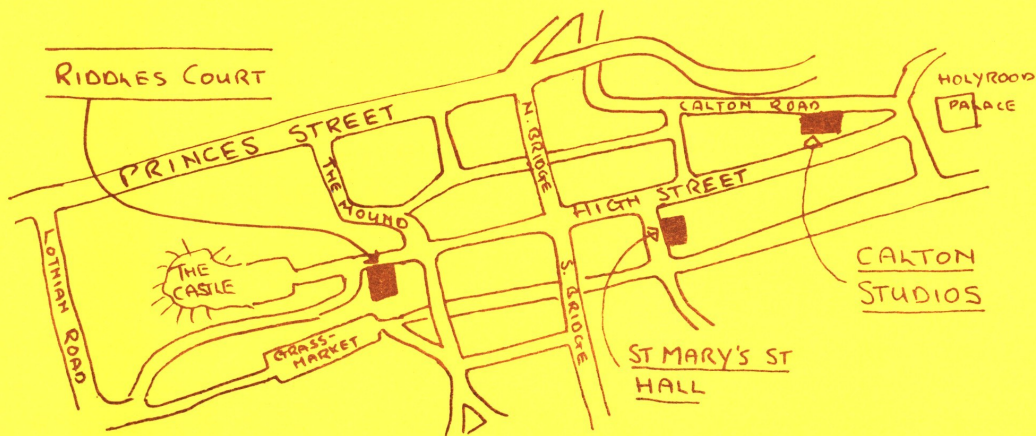
SCIENCE FOR THE PEOPLE

JOHN MACLEAN SOCIETY

## Folk Song Concert & Social

JOCK TAMSON'S BAIRNS, THE  
LEVELLERS and many others

8.00 p.m. St Mary's St Hall  
BAR Tickets - 75p



#### HOW TO FIND US:

**WEA**

**Riddle's Court**

**322 Lawnmarket**

**Edinburgh**

**031 226 3456**

## The Trial of John Maclean

Songs, poems, readings and speeches to commemorate the greatest political trial of the century.

Friday 26 May

Two performances: 7.30 and 9.15 pm

Calton Studios, 263 Calton Road

Tickets 75p from W.E.A. and Calton Studios

**Tickets**

**available**

**from WEA**



## Folk Song Concert & Social

Jock Tamson's Bairs, The Levellers and other  
on Saturday 27 May

8.00 pm St Mary's St Hall Bar.

Tickets 75p from W.E.A.

FULL PROGRAMME OVERLEAF







POLITICAL PRISONERS?  
IN CONCENTRATION CAMPS?  
WE DON'T DO THAT  
SORT OF THING!

.....EXCEPT,  
OF COURSE, IN  
NORTHERN IRELAND

H-BLOCK = HELL BLOCK  
= Britain's  
Concentration Camp  
in Ireland

**Political Status Now!**

**for Irish**

**Political Prisoners**





WORKERS EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION

# **FESTIVAL**



**25, 26, 27  
May 1978**

## **State or Community ?**

the political future of Scotland

## **HEALTH & SAFETY**

the hazards of work  
and how to fight them

## **UNION MAIDS**

acclaimed film about  
women in the Trade Unions

## **The Trial of John Maclean**

an evening of drama, poetry and song

## **Edinburgh Labour History**

General Strike - Unemployed Workers  
Movement - International Brigade

## **NUCLEAR POWER**

a blessing or a curse ?

## **EXHIBITIONS**

Trade Unions, Women's  
Groups, Friends of the  
Earth, Community Groups  
and others

## **Scottish Working Class Poetry**

Joe Corrie, Hugh MacDiarmid, and others  
Tom Leonard and Liz Lochhead read their own work

## **The Social Security System**

a discussion

## **COMMUNITY ACTION**

Tenants Associations, Dampness  
Campaigns, Summer Playschemes,  
Community Newspapers - films  
and discussion

## **CAFE & CREGHE**

all day Saturday

## **Folk Song Concert & Social**

This is the provisional programme  
for the Festival. Look out for  
more details, and tell your friends.

VENUE - Riddle's Court, 322 Lawnmarket, Edinburgh. 031-226-3456.

## "McKinnon's Bar" A Rabbit Between Workers

By Robert Lynn

"Good evening Margo."

"Hello Andy. The usual?"

"Yes please. Hello Larry, what are you having? Jesus Christ, I can't help you there. I was referring to the weather Andy. Yeah it would freeze the cobblers off the proverbial brass monkey. Do you want a pint or what?"

"A pint please."

"Pint Margo please."

"Well Andy, I suppose you'll be having a hard time at present being self-employed, with people not using cash I mean, at least not as a rule, being used to using plastic money. Credit cards are all the go aren't they?"

"Yeah they are Larry. People in general seem to be prone to go into debt. They don't have the ready cash of course."

"It's getting beyond me Andy, recessions, inflation, unemployment and the threat of it. Do you think its all a conspiracy by these Tory bastards just to keep the working class down?"

"For Christ sake Larry why don't you attend some meetings instead of continually trying to cajole me into a political discussion in a pub? Anyway when you get a little bevied you drift into your usual subject."

"Come off it Andy. You mean everyone's favourite subject."

"Do I? Sex gets raised periodically by many I know even when it's just in telling a joke."

"But you seem to have an insatiable appetite in talking about it. I know you're not averse to sex Andy so what's the matter with you, what's the slagging for?"

"Sorry Larry, I should have said this to you last week but I didn't. So it must have built up in me. In thinking about it later I felt a bit nauseated about it."

"For Christ sake Andy, out with it. What are you trying to say?"

"Well Larry as you say, I'm not averse to sex but I detest vulgarity especially when it seems boastful. You seem to take great delight when talking about screwing Mary Dedsert."

"Oh Andy, she's a cow isn't she?"

"A cow is an animal of the bovine species. You mean she's a prostitute of course."

"So what, you moralistic humbug?"

"You're like those toffee-nosed slimy bastards from public schools who go to brothels to indulge themselves with the Mary Dedserts and screw them but



W.E.A. FESTIVAL 25/26/27 MAY 1978

Community Action 9.30 am - 1.00 pm Saturday 26 May

John Mulvey, Mike Tait, Jimmy Burnet, Colin Gillan, Dick Lewis and Colin Kirkwood discussed the Community Action side of the Festival on Tuesday April 4th.

We decided that the session should be organised as follows :

An initial period lasting from 9.30 till 11.00 am in which groups involved in Community Action would explain and display their activities, for example by displays of photographs, newspaper coverage, leaflets, community newspapers with active members being on hand to discuss and answer questions. There would also be several video tapes showing and possibly a film. People would go round this as they wished like a Fair.

Then at 11.00 am a Community Action debate would begin. There would be a chairperson, but no 'main speaker' - seating would be arranged in parliamentary style, and people would make contributions probably initially concerned with their practical experience and problems. Several people known to have interesting experiences in some field of community action would have been asked several weeks in advance if they would make a short contribution to this session but it would be open to anyone present to speak. Gradually as the debate progressed we hope that it would move - without abandoning practical concerns - into an exploration of such issues as direct action against the authorities versus consultation with the authorities, the internal organisation of groups - hierarchy versus participation, the problem of seeking resources from the authorities - incorporation or independence, the relationship between the core of active people and others who have not yet become active - whatever issues are important to those who attend.

We intend to inform people active in community groups about the Festival, and about the Community Action debate by going to their meetings and telling them about it, also taking leaflets along.

The Edinburgh Council of Social Service Community workers to divide up the meetings of the various Lothians groups they know and allocate them for the purpose of informing their members, to invite groups to display their past activities, and to obtain videotapes and films. To obtain buses from the Craigmillar F.S.

Colin Gillan to draft a leaflet about the Community Action Debate. 800/1000 to be run off. Mike Tait to explore possibility of making a new videotape of interviews with 6 or 8 people active in community action.

Colin Kirkwood to inform and invite Castlemilk Today, the Jeely Piece Club, and The View, also Prestonfield TA; to make arrangements for venue, obtain 3 VTRs, carousel slide projector and display screens from Dean Centre and Lothian Region PR Dept.; also to inform and invite involvement of all those who gave their names for Community Action at the first Festival meeting.

WEA FESTIVAL MAY 26/27 1978

WORKING CLASS LITERATURE

We met on 29th March to discuss the working class literature side of the Festival, and agreed that:

We should concentrate mainly on 20th Century Scottish poetry, rather than try to range very widely. However this does not exclude some folk song, nor the possibility of a few poems in translation from other languages.

Poets whose work we might present : - William Soutar, Joe Corrie, Hugh MacDiarmid, Robert Garloch, Tom Leonard, Liz Lochhead, Sorley MacLean, Jean Milton, Bertolt Brecht, Hans Magnus Enzensberger. We should select a few poems from each. Those selected should be short, easily understood, and in a broad sense to do with some aspect of working class life. Also the theme of working class people's language.

The poems should be read by different people, each giving a short introduction to what they read, the reading to be followed by opportunities to comment and discuss.

Possible poems by different authors grouped according to theme.

We should make some posters of poems written in clear large handwriting to go on the walls. Also duplicated copies of the poems read should be given out to people so they can follow them.

The readings should be interspersed with songs, either sung or on tape/record, e.g. The Laggan, 7.84

We should have a stall with the books containing the poems read, on sale.

If possible we should get some visual material, eg slides, linking in with the poems and songs.

Roger to contact Chilean folk singer R Figueroa and Selma Jones for Palestinian songs, also Jane Shonfeld and Bill McGhie.

Colin to contact John McGrath, Harry Andrew, Charlie Swan, Maurice Blythman.

Tom Leonard and Liz Lochhead have been invited to come and read their own work.

NEXT MEETING : in the WEA office, 322 Lawnmarket, Edinburgh at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 12 April. Aim - to make final decisions, select poems and songs to be used and prepare programme and publicity. Anyone interested in reading, singing, organising, invited to come.



AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL.

To all anti fascist activists in the DIRECT ACTION MOVEMENT and CLASS WAR FEDERATION.

In July 1992 several members of Glasgow AFA decided to set up their own Glasgow south side branch of AFA. This was a result of Steve Lees of Red Actions threat to chib a comrade of ours, Ian of Class War for the pathetic reason that Ian was selling his Celtic fanzine louder than Stevie Lees outside Parkhead. This was the last straw after several months of political manipulation of Glasgow AFA by Stevie Lees and Red Action which included withholding information, everything from intelligence to mundane national AFA info. Stevie Lees and his supporters went round the homes of people suspected of being involved in Glasgow South AFA threatening them in order to get the group closed. A meeting with Glasgow Red Action in October proved fruitless as they thought they could argue a bit about the same old shit and then we would fall in line behind their glorious leadership. After a recent meeting of Glasgow South AFA two of our members were physically attacked by Stevie Lees and his supporters. Iain of Glasgow DAM was kicked and hit with a baton. Amy, the only asian ever to get involved with AFA in Glasgow almost had his nose broken. At one point they told him they were the BNP, any further attacks will not be tolerated. Stevie Lees the instigator of this anti-social behaviour should not be supported and should be politically isolated as he has brought the name of AFA into disrepute. Stevie Lees has tried to justify his behaviour by distortions and then out and out lies. He has accused one of us of being a police grass. By some strange coincidence he also tried to justify his attacks on the Scottish Republican Socialist Party with the unfounded allegation that one of them was a grass. He keeps adding more lies to distort the situation so that he is never brought to rights.

As we see it there are two options open to us;

- 1) We call a national AFA meeting attended by all local AFA groups where we propose that we are officially recognised by all other AFA groups and that Stevie Lees is expelled from AFA for bringing it into disrepute. At the moment we believe this would be the equivalent of banging our head against a brick wall for several months.
- 2) We cease to use the AFA name and call a meeting with the aim of setting up a new national anarchist based anti-fascist organisation.

We wish to hear your views on the above.

Solidarity.

Write to-Glasgow South AFA.  
c/o P.O.Box 1008,  
Glasgow,  
G42 8AZ.

## **"McKinnon's Bar" A Rabbit Between Workers**

**By Robert Lynn**

"Hello Margo."

"Hello Larry. Is it a pint?"

"Yes please. Has Andy been in Margo?"

"Not yet. Are you expecting to see him tonight? He doesn't normally come in on a Monday night, but occasionally he does."

"I didn't make any meet with him. I wanted to talk to him but it's not of any great importance."

"Did you look in the Riggs Bar Larry?"

"I just left the Riggs. I was glad to get away. A guy kept rabbiting on about world hunger and saying that Nicky Fairbairn was right in advocating sending condoms instead of food to the starving people in Africa. Their governments should have sterilisation programmes to curtail the population growth. He went on and on about over-population and sterilisation. I said, 'maybe it would have been a good idea if Nicky Fairbairn's old man had volunteered to head off a sterilisation program,' and then walked out. I'm sure Fairbairn's colleagues in the Tory party must be fuming at this gibbering congenital imbecile."

"There's Andy now Larry."

"Hello Andy."

"Good evening."

"What do you wish Andy?"

"A pint Margo please."

"I'll get it Andy."

"O.K. Larry. Thanks."

"I was in the Riggs earlier on Andy, thinking I may have seen you. I didn't stay any length of time. I was telling Margo a guy was going on and on about that crackpot Nicky Fairbairn. He was saying Fairbairn was right about sending condoms and advocating sterilisation to curtail the growth of population."

"His father Ronald Fairbairn was a psychiatrist Larry."

"He couldn't have been very successful at his profession if Nicky is any criterion to go by Andy."

"You took the words out of my mouth"

"I meant to ask you Andy, how did the funeral go?"

"It was as well as could be expected. I seen some friends I hadn't seen for quite some time which of course is typical of funerals."

"When you went to pay your respects the night the corpse was being received into the chapel I asked you a question but you didn't have the time for any further conversation."

"Yes I vaguely remember Larry. I believe it was something about morality. However maybe you will jolt my memory."



"Well, you said something about conventional morality prevailing more amongst the working class than amongst the aristocracy or the bourgeoisie. I asked what you meant by that but you had no time to reply. You had to hasten away."

"Well Larry it's my view that the way people earn their living has quite an influence on their thought process. Working class people in general are less interested in financial circumstances than the aristocracy or bourgeoisie; the capitalist class if you like. When they enter into a love relationship the money situation is of secondary importance to the working class. A variety of other qualities are of greater significance to them."

"But most of them get legally married Andy. So surely this indicates a desire for security?"

"Tradition dies hard Larry. Security no doubt had some bearing on it in the past but I would say to a much lesser degree now. There are in my view Larry, several contributory factors which have a bearing on this: the decline in religion, and during World War II, the necessities of capitalism calling for an increase in labour power, introduced women into large scale industry like engineering and shipbuilding. So this gave women a sense of independence and in consequence the accepted code of morality became more lax. Many women became more disinclined to lie down to a man just because he brought in the wages on a Friday night. Hence the increase in divorces over the last thirty years. From a conventional standpoint when two people get bound together in so called holy matrimony it's supposed to be until death do they part. If things don't work out to expectations people say 'they made their bed so they must lie on it.' Some of them do but not so much as in the past. In acquiescing to convention this to me spells legal prostitution. However there is nothing constant but change and although circumstances have not changed fundamentally, which is not surprising within the framework of our society, they have changed superficially. Many couples live with each other outside of legal wedlock. In spite of this decline on official wedlock a monogamous relationship in the main prevails among the working class. This is healthy; there's nothing mercenary about it.

As far as the aristocracy and the capitalist class is concerned, almost invariably wealth is the predominant factor in matrimonial relationships. Wealth having such an important place in the minds of the rich, they marry into their own class whether there is a natural love relationship or not. In consequence extra-marital practices are prevalent. So they violate their own code of morality which is understandable. Their natural love life being frustrated thus conflicts with their bourgeois morals."

"But Andy the bourgeoisie morals you speak of are also the morals of the working class. The working class accept these same morals and they also violate them. Extra marital practices are not confined to any particular class."

"I've said before and I say again: the capitalist class are in control of education because of their ownership of wealth production Larry. The mass media are unquestionably of the capitalist class. The press have financial interests in a variety of industries: In paper, building projects, home decorating. Trafalgar House which owns the 'Daily Express', the 'Sunday Express' and London's only

evening paper 'New Standard', have their commercial fingers in various pies; in shipping, aviation, hotels. All the multinational newspapers have vested interests in furniture companies, oil and you-name-it. So the press, the mass media in general, promotes the ideas of the ruling class. The ideas of the ruling class are spoon fed into the working class at school, from the pulpit, and generally speaking through the family. Capitalist culture permeates all classes in society to a greater or lesser degree Larry."

"Are you implying Andy, that the capitalist class have some underlying ulterior motive for teaching a certain code of morality which even reacts against their own vegetative needs?"

"I'm saying just that Larry."

"Would you explain Andy? Your line of thought seems nebulous to me and in some way even irrational."

"Well Larry, the capitalist class was preceded by the Aristocracy who were the dominant class in feudalism. In the course of evolution, with the advent of slavery the idea of possession of private property germinated in men's minds. Man being in a favourable position in the division of labour; being the forager and hunter of food, he became dominant over the female. In order to ensure that he would transmit his property to his own exclusive offspring he had to make a demand on the woman; she must be a 'one-man gal.' So then Larry, a moral demand was made on the woman for an economic motive. So the institution of monogamy arose and developed. There have been superficial changes from time to time to meet basically the superficial changes of authoritarian society but like education the mode of it changes but the purpose remains the same; to nurture subservience. That is the mission of official legalised monogamy Larry. All class societies are authoritarian and sex plays a very significant role in its promotion. It is not by accident but by design that we get a sex negative education at school. It is taboo to indulge. Only in the future when you are morally responsible to accept holy wedlock does it mysteriously become blissful. I've said before Larry and I'll say again; the world is an insane asylum but it takes in such a huge area that most of us don't really notice. Sex being put in such an absurd moral straight-jacket initially for economic motives which I said before causes human kind to tend towards mental and emotional illness. In consequence we find some with a pathological desire to become tyrants or at least to be leaders of the herd. Inversely we observe many seeking leaders; another reflection of legalised monogamy, probably the projection of the father figure complex emanating from family structure, the father being the head."

"I gather the gist of what you're saying Andy. In seeing it in the light of what you say I think maybe I have been putting a cross on a ballot paper for years seeking a saviour, just like the religious seeking and believing they have found their messiah."

"You took the words out of my mouth Larry. And anything seemingly going wrong excuses are made by the bible thumpers; god acts in mysterious ways they say. The voters are still devoted to their respective leaders. When mistakes, U-turns or finally betrayals become so aggravated the voters do not take a U-turn



with respect to their political leaning; they blame the leaders and call them Judases, con-men and many other derogatory adjectives. The principle of leadership and authority is so deep rooted Larry, that the voters find it difficult to sever the umbilical cord of their subservient education. They almost invariably swallow hook, line and sinker the claptrap served up by their leaders and so called experts. If they would just scratch beneath the surface, take a little time to think for themselves instead of accepting some party line or what some experts reiterate, they would find that their idols have feet of clay. But that in itself may just be a clue to what is intrinsically wrong Larry. They have to find out what makes the system tick. If they listen more intently to what is said by the political quacks they may realise what unadulterated crap they are being asked to swallow. For decades they have been deceived by the con-men that the fight against inflation prevents our progress towards wellbeing. Many of these quacks don't even know the cause of inflation."

"Don't the workers contribute towards inflation Andy, by striking for higher wages when the employer can't afford it."

"The workers' contribution towards inflation is conspicuous by its' absence Larry. The employer lives off the working class by legal robbery; some people use the euphemistic term exploitation. When the workers strike Larry they are trying to alleviate the consequences of that legal robbery. The employers and their government are just sophisticated muggers. If two guys set about you, get you on the ground and whilst searching you they notice a crucifix they may not turn away like vampires, they may say look he's one of us. Better leave him with something. So you're left with a couple of quid to get you home like getting a consolation prize. Next time you see them, will you shake their hand?"

"Like fuck I would!"

"Well when workers strike they're just doing what you would like to have done. Get some of your cash back, or more to the point prevented it from being taken from you. When you are incompetent to defend yourself you have to succumb. But if friends of yours come on the scene it may be a different kettle of fish. When a worker goes cap in hand for a job he pawns himself to the employer. The worker may know that the wage he gets is no fair exchange. Being in a weak position like yourself when being mugged he succumbs. But its different if he has allies like as if your friends came on the scene when you're being mugged. When workers unite to strike they would be acting like your friends. Identify in themselves with each other, practising mutual aid in their collective interests. In other words trying to retrieve part of what's been stolen from them."

"Some one for you Larry. Hello Madge. Your sister's popped in Larry."

"Just off the London train. I would have phoned down but forgot the number"

"Have to go Andy. We'll talk about inflation on Friday. I'm sure it will still be with us."

"Many a truth has been said in jest Larry. See you."

(To Be Continued)



## "McKinnon's Bar: A Rabbit Between Workers"

'Good evening Denise.'

'Hello Andy, what would you like?'

'Pint please. Is your mother off tonight?'

'She's away visiting my dad in hospital, but will be back here tonight.'

'How is dad, Denise?'

'Much better and expects to be home within a few days, thank you.'

'That's fine. I know he misses the pub.'

'Well, he likes to be on the go Andy.'

'Yeah, just like yourself; you're a ball of energy. You'd give any of the staff a ten break.'

'I know you mean that Andy.'

'Of course I do. I've said to your Ma and your Da often enough that they couldn't lace your shoes as far as service goes. I always said it with a smile to soften the blow. Anyway I don't think they would mind even if the smile was not to be seen. They know I'm being complimentary.'

'I've heard you saying such things Andy and I know you don't tell silly lies.'

'Thanks Denise, I appreciate that. I can't stand silly lies; they make me puke or almost. I can appreciate a lie told for some rational motive; in fact in many cases it is essential if you want to retain your integrity.'

'You do have some quaint ideas at times Andy. To retain your integrity mustn't you uphold the truth? I'm not saying I always do but isn't that the ideal?'

'Well it's the ideal taught in school Denise, but it's just a subtle way to mould you into a lump of obsequious dough. Their motive is to subdue you in order to use you. It's a conspiracy to inculcate their conception of what is right and what is wrong. They tell lies continuously; the authorities daren't tell the truth to pupils because pupils are the adults of the future, who are in the main the producers of all wealth. That is a fact, a truth if you like. It's also a truth that they, generally speaking, are not allowed to produce wealth without selling themselves for a period, just like a prostitute. The question of the morality of the situation is not discussed. Morality is a foreign language to those who have to be concerned about survival. Don't you agree, Denise?'

'I suppose so, but we were speaking about truth.'

'Truth and morality are like cunning politician; they may change their garb but the character is more or less unchanged. Truth is not eternal Denise, it changes like the weather. But because the change in time is much slower it is less perceptible. Truths which are unpalatable to me, and these are several, are truths which I wish to vanquish. The society in which we live creates poverty, misery, degradation and a host of illnesses; physical and psychological. So these are truths which healthy minded people want to make an untruth.'

'Denise! Three pints please!'

'Excuse me Andy.'



'Of course, I better not keep you off your work.'

'My mother should be in any time now Andy. What you say is of interest but I'm afraid we'll have to natter about it anon. We start getting busy about this time Andy.'

'Yeah, I forget I'm at this side of the bar.'

'There's my mother now.'

'Good evening Margo. Hello Larry, were you at the hospital too?'

'No, I just met Margo coming off the bus. What are you having?'

'A pint of Brian Donlevy.'

'I presume you heard him Denise?'

'I heard. I thought he was a Mick Jagger man.'

'I've gone off the lager Denise.'

'O.K., you're a big girl now you know.'

'Here, what kind of patter is this I'm being served up with?'

'Only joking; maybe Andy has smitted me with his brand of humour.'

'I forgot to ask you Margo, how's the patient?'

'He's quite well Andy, thank you. I expect him home on Monday.'

'That's good.'

'He won't be in here for a while; he'll have to rest for a spell.'

'Of course. He'll be aware of that. He's not a fool. How is your sis Larry?'

'I think she's alright now. She was perturbed about some incident which transpired a few days before she came up from London. She had quite a heated argument with her husband about money matters. However, next day after she came up here, her husband phoned and I understand their diverse views have been reconciled.'

'That's good Larry. You know, even though I don't know some people too well, I can feel deeply about

some people's misfortunes. I'm not like the guy who would say "life would be unbearable if it wasn't for the misfortune of our neighbours." I don't find consolation in other people's troubles. I get steamed about it, then nauseated when I think about those who couldn't care less about their promotion of poverty, misery, degradation, illnesses; physical and psychological through their chicanery, deception, and humbug speeches on being more competitive, having restraint on wages, on the necessity of reducing inflation and a host of other falsehoods.'

'The last time we were in here we were talking about these things just before Madge came in to let me know about my sister's arrival.'

'We were Larry. You were asking if the workers didn't contribute to inflation. What did I say?'

'I don't remember exactly Andy, but in essence you said when workers go on strike they were trying to regain some of what had been stolen from them: that the workers were in no way responsible for inflation. What you said has filtered through to me. However Andy, I'm still in a quandary about inflation.'

'You're not alone on that Larry. Big Jim Callaghan, ex-labour prime minister seemingly stumbled onto the puzzle and called inflationary currency confetti money. Some top civil servant probably enlightened him because he was prime minister. It's governments which cause inflation Larry. In this country the government, irrespective of it's political colour, controls the money issue through

the medium of the Bank of England. By this control they can depreciate the value of money by printing an excess of notes which cannot be converted into gold, which is recognised as real money within our society. It is termed the universal equivalent because it can be exchanged for all other commodities.

Politicians cannot know all and sundry, but they appear to profess that they do. More than likely they will be tutored by their permanent civil servants as to how to hoodwink by chicanery and cant. What do our wily experts try to teach us? Not that our currency notes are less valuable because they have been printed in excess of what they can be exchanged for; they are valuable as forged notes. Safer of course as you can't get the nick for having them in your possession. The experts tell us that inflation occurs when too much money is chasing after too few goods; that it happens when pressure of demand overstrains the economic machine, that the less near we come to full capacity the less severe inflation will be; that a degree of unemployment is necessary, or an extension of controls, or in some cases both of these conditionings.

The theory behind this antidote for the inflationary boils on society's backside is that on the one hand employers will be in a stronger position to resist wage demands whilst on the other they will be reluctant to raise prices if costs rise, since demand will be less buoyant due to unemployment, or the threat of it, which would induce people to save rather than spend. Then, of course, there is also the threat of dismissal lurking in the background which can act as an incentive to increased productivity; that is increased output per worker, not necessarily increased total output. To the layman who may protest that, as he sees it, the prosperity of a nation is determined or can be by how much is produced individually and collectively utilising our resources in the most rational manner, the reply from our experts could be something like this in essence:

It is regrettable that output may have to be controlled so that we don't produce as much as we could. It is most unfortunate, they may say, when you think about the lost output. But you can't get this lost output without paying incomes to the people who produce it. They will then spend the incomes pushing the economic machine back into overstrain.'

'Seems like the dog chasing after it's own tail and being unable to catch it Andy.'

'Good Larry, you're top of the class; the front seats are getting painted. Just leave your books, you'll be back down tomorrow again.'

'O.K., O.K., have your daft wee joke. Och Andy, I suppose if we lost our sense of humour we would all finish up in the looney bin.'

'Yes Larry, it is a sort of safety valve for me because sometimes I get really heated about all the humbug and quackery served up to us. George Orwell's 1984 is only a scenario compared with the double-talk of our political present-day mountebanks. What unadulterated audacity they have in expecting people to believe in the glaring lunacy that the health of a nation depends on the reduces productive capacity of our potential work force. To rub salt into the wounds, as you know, in recent years the government have been paying farmers not to produce or limit production of certain foods whilst some people in the world are turning somersaults with hunger. It's significant to note that you don't hear the church moralising about this. Perhaps



looking through church moral spectacles it is permissible to murder children by starvation but not to terminate the embryo of a potential Christian follower.'

'Since I got to know you Andy I have become an avowed atheist. Some months ago I got hold of a second-hand book in the "Barras" - "The Catholic Church against the XX<sup>th</sup> Century" by Avro Manhattan. It was very informative indeed. It was a real eye-opener.'

'You were quite lucky to get it Larry, I'm sure it's out of print now.'

'I also got the "Golden Bough" by Sir James Fraser from the library. I'm reading it just now. You know Andy, it's ironical that you going to a catholic school is instrumental in me becoming an atheist.'

'I was thinking about that Larry, reading your mind - although I don't usually read trash.'

'Ah you go and get fucked.'

'Now Larry, remember what was said about retaining our sense of humour. O.K., O.K., but keep the conversation straight for a while will you?'

'O.K. Larry, carry on.'

'I was about to say that if you had been a proddy I wouldn't have listened to you so intently. In your criticism of catholicism I would probably have thought you were getting at me.'

'I understand, if instead of me being born a catholic in Calton and was born a protestant in Bridgeton you would have suspected my motive in my criticism. As it is you knew I was criticising the Roman Catholic Church as an institution; and that I wasn't personally being hostile towards you. I knew that all along Larry by your response. The powers that be thrive on misunderstandings like these, and so the working class in their ignorance forge their own chains. But I think these chains are becoming eroded Larry.'

'Do you think so?'

'Yes, very much so Larry. Even the catholic clergy are beginning to revolt and advocate a natural love life. Some probably are just content to remain clandestine. Maybe they get some vicarious thrill out of it, just like a klepto stealing a salt dish from a restaurant although they don't need it. Well Larry, it's away past my bedtime.'

'Do you mean your hanky-panky time?'

'Your wife must tell you everything Larry.'

'You bastard!'

'Well, you asked for it. See you Larry.'

**R. Lynn**

*(to be continued)*

# "McKinnon's Bar: A Rabbit Between Workers"

by Robert Lynn

"Hello Andy."

"Hello Joe, when did you come home?"

"Last Monday. It was on the Saturday when I heard about Cutty."

"I didn't hear about it until last Saturday Joe. You could have knocked me down with a feather when I heard about it. Truthfully Joe, I felt my eyes swelling up when I was told about it. I had to turn away to pretend I had been distracted. I think I was really crying internally: I was so perturbed about no-one telling me. It was only about a week prior to him leaving the stage when I encountered his sister. I had only met her twice but she said she remembered me because Cutty spoke about me regularly. She said she was always hearing about how I was instrumental in having favourable changes made in the jail. She said every time my name was mentioned he would go on about the fish riot in Barlinnie."

"I remember that Andy, but I was in a different hall from you."

"What the hell are we rabbiting here for Joe? I'm going down to McKinnon's; can you join me?"

"I will, but it won't be for long - I have to see my daughter at five and it's five past four just now."

"I won't detain you Joe. It's just to get us off the street rather than rabbit here like gossiping housewives."

"Lead the way. I hope we don't get involved in company Andy; the pocket isn't too healthy."

"There won't be many in at this time. Not on a Wednesday. It will start to get busy about five and you'll have left by then."

"Hello Margo."

"Hello, what are you having?"

"Joe?"

"A pint of heavy Andy."

"Two pints of heavy please. You were saying Joe, you were in a different hall from me at the time of the fish riot in "Bar." Of course your age group situated you in B Hall. You had no dining hall at the time. The dining hall started in E Hall where I was. We in E Hall were in a more favourable position to protest because those in B Hall, as in the other halls including the untried hall, had their meals in the cells."

"You know Andy, I never got round to ask you how it all happened. I know what it was about, sloppy fish, but I don't know how it reached the stage of revolt."

"I know it was in 1952 Joe, but I explained it all to you after your liberation in detail. If Cutty was still with us he would explain it all to you, as we had a few discussions on it before approaching others."

"I know you led it Andy, and I know you don't do things for sheer notoriety. You don't have to be disinclined to speak to me about it. We have known each other a long time and I know you don't usually act impulsively: you normally give some thought to matters of some consequence. I'm interested Andy. It's all water beneath the bridges now. Nothing could be done about it."

"I know Joe, the Principal screw knew about it and I'm sure the governor would get to know through the grape vine."

"I suppose so. Would you care to tell me about it?"



"I don't think there's time Joe. You've to meet your daughter at five."

"Yeah, I know. Well maybe you can tell me at a later date. I'm wondering why you didn't lose remission. That stuck in my mind, for I knew you were to be liberated the following week. How the hell you got involved is beyond me."

"I told you about it. Maybe you forget the details. After all, we're going back to 1952."

"Hello Joe, what do you know?"

"Enough to hang you, you so and so."

"Great to see you Joe. It's been some time."

"Well, several moons have passed by Larry."

"Maybe you'd better bolt Joe, or you'll be getting a slap on the wrist."

"Yeah Andy, I better. I'll have a rabbit with you the next time I'm over here."

"O.K. but don't make yourself a stranger in future."

"I won't Andy, you can count on that."

"See you."

"See you Larry."

"Don't do anything I wouldn't do Joe!"

"Yeah? That leaves me quite a margin to work within."

"You bet."

"It's more than probable I'll see you next Friday."

"Hope so Joe; that means we'll all still be living."

"There's one thing I must say Andy. You never were a pessimist."

"That's for sure Joe. See you next Friday."

"He hasn't changed Andy."

"No, Joe's a Dorian Gray, Larry."

"I wonder how his portrait is?"

"Not bad Larry, your sense of humour is developing by leaps and bounds."

"Thank you. Joe himself would appreciate that, I'm sure. I like Joe. I like his tolerance. I've never heard him backbiting anyone. In fact on many occasions I've heard him defending people who were being vilified. I hope he does come over next Friday. I know he wants to talk to me about the past. I'll try to furnish him with what he wants to know."

"What does he want to know, may I ask?"

"He wants to know about a riot I was involved in about a fish diet in Barlinnie."

"Were you Andy?"

"Yeah, it was away back in 1952. I really don't want to talk about it Larry. I'm more concerned about the present and the future. If Joe is persistent I'll try to gloss it over speedily."

"Well, I hope I'm in at the time."

"There's much going on at the present which we should be more preoccupied with Larry. We should be reiterating continually reports about the political quacks in the press. I have told you before how MP's are puppets on a string manipulated by the top civil service: a non-elected body completely outside of any democratic control. Even cabinet ministers can be kept in the dark, and in fact are from time to time. Witness prime minister John Major's secrecy about the threatening closure of the mines. It's strange Andy, they used to be more subtle in the past. Now they are so blatant as if they were saying 'we don't give a damn what you think.' Capitalism is in such troubled waters that the powers that be find it awkward to keep the boat from turning turtle Larry. They're in a quandary because they have to reckon with the people's resistance. The recent upsurge of the people's opposition

to mine closures was an unexpected blow to them. The general economic and social climate has changed since the miners strike of 1984-85. Roy Lynk and his scab followers of Union Democratic Miners who shit on their mates of the NUM have earned their reward. The shit has boomeranged and has plastered their own faces. They had to learn the hard way: that self-interest is best served by expressing solidarity with their own class. Mutual aid must be an indelible mark on their cranium. Of course there are uncountable instances when workers have been gulled into thinking they have been acting in their own self-interest. War is a classic example Larry. You'll know that now of course."

"Don't rub it in will you?"

"I don't mean to Larry. What springs to mind is: When the Labour party took over the reins of power in 1945, within six days the government sent conscript troops into the Surrey Docks, London to break a ten weeks old strike against a wage cut. Three months later an unofficial National dock dispute brought out more than 43,000 portworkers on to the cobblestones. The Labour government utilised 21,000 conscript troops to break the strike. The only port who failed to support the strike was Southampton (on the grounds that it would discredit the government they helped to elect). Nine months later in July 1946 the Labour government expressed its gratitude by using troops to break a strike of Southampton dockers. Translate the term gratitude into blackleg shit and you'll find a common denominator between the Southampton dockers and the UDM union."

"Sometimes I question the average workers grey matter or do you think they're masochists who enjoy being fucked?"

"I appreciate your sentiments Larry and am tempted to say that you deserve about eight points for that. Symbolically speaking you've hit the nail on the head, although not completely driven it in. In adulthood the father fixation which created, in the main, respect for authority, gets transferred to the 'State.' The father complex is the 'State' in embryonic form. Just as a child gets naughty or rebellious against the father periodically, the adult gets rebellious against the State. Then of course the child changes course and thinks father knows best. Seemingly there's a parallel between the adult and the 'State.' When I say 'you hit the nail on the head although not fully driven it in,' what I mean is there are still pockets of groups which are in sporadic existence throughout the country, in fact throughout the world, which organise themselves in an autonomous anti-authoritarian manner. History gives them a solid backing, illustrating that society has existed for thousands of years without any state machine, which was only born with the rise of private property. Purpose: to keep the underdogs in subjection. However, the masochistic brigade are dwindling slowly but surely. The psychic forces of the masses are instrumental in their recognition of injustices. The anti-poll tax movement is one glaring example of this. The Peace Movement when in its heyday is another contemporary example. The Shop Stewards movement in industry was a significant illustration as to how political parties failed in their efforts to control it."

"The way you're talking Andy, you seem as optimistic as ever. You seem to see some great event on the horizon."

"Not on the horizon Larry. The more you pursue the horizon the more it moves away from you. Admittedly its abstract, like an ideal, but once the ideal becomes the real its no longer the ideal. But ideals have their place, otherwise you might as well be a block of wood; an inanimate object with no feelings. So it's something I feel. Like going into a pub Larry. You know how sometimes you can sense an atmosphere. Either it's homely and conducive or otherwise. It's one of those



phenomena which is inexplicable. So it's something which I feel but it's not entirely abstract: my powers of observation are quite discerning. I know Larry, there are autonomous groups mushrooming in various parts of the country. I'm hoping that these groups may federate into a national do-it-yourself movement. An ad hoc group at present are trying to organise a 'Summer School' for May 1993 with a view to having groups and non-aligned individuals of similar ideas to express what they may have in common and perhaps reconcile any divergent views they may have. This I would hope would be instrumental in creating a 'National Federation of Autonomous Groups.'"

"That seems interesting Andy. Perhaps you could let me know when any meeting is being held which you think would interest me. You can rest assured I won't be voting for Labour any more."

"Well, that's a step towards thinking for yourself."

"Now Andy. Don't start slagging."

"Wouldn't dream of it Larry. Seriously Larry, you'll see things from an entirely different view. You will observe that it's not leaders as such that are at fault but the objective conditions of our social system. Decisions are made behind the scenes which MP's know nothing about and even cabinet ministers are kept in ignorance. At present allegations are made against not only senior members of the current government but against the entire cabinet of 1990 in which the present Prime Minister was a member. The allegations are that the entire cabinet had secret dealings with Saddam Hussein's war machine. The tools which were exported to Iraq helped to make the shells which were subsequently used by Saddam's war machine to end the lives of British troops."

So British manufacturers and British politicians cohorted in a conspiracy which sent British troops to a premature death whilst fighting for freedom; a freedom to come back to the dole if they survived. These sinister practices are perpetrated no matter which party is in the saddle Larry. I could go on and on Larry, but you may start thinking that I'm indirectly slinging arrows at you."

"No, I don't think that Andy. I know you're trying to give guidance. I'm not so pig-headed to ignore advice."

"Well Larry, I hope you'll soon observe that there are alternative means of organisation contrary to the organisation of political parties."

"Well I suppose we'll get round to discussing that. Do you want a pint before you go? There's flowers growing out of that glass."

"No thanks Larry. I have to bolt. I was so engrossed in rabbiting, Larry, I forgot about drink. However, your remarks about the vegetation are appropriate. I'm wondering if Margo noticed it."

"Do I hear my name being taken in vain?"

"Just saying Margo, how magnetically attractive you look tonight."

"Thank you, Andy."

"You ingratiating bastard."

"Larry, I have a social heart which requires emotional pabulum. If that makes Margo's day then that makes me feel good and so my social heart will be nourished. Now I'm going home to nourish the belly."

"See you when I see you Andy."

"Larry, anything which is self-evident needs no proof."

(to be continued)



## ANARCHISM FEMINISM IN GLASGOW

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I was asked to write an article on anarchist feminism in Glasgow for inclusion in this mailout. I am an anarchist woman living in the city, with three cats and my partner. I am a big sexy woman with an opinion on everything and the temperament of a cat in a bag!

Let me begin by saying that I do not personally like the term "Anarcho-Feminist" that is used by many of my anarchist sisters. I am a woman with an anarchist perspective and I do not like to label myself or be labelled by others, so excuse me if I use words or phrases like 'anarchist' and 'woman' instead of 'anarcho-feminist'.

I reckon that I have always been an anarchist but I did not know that was what to call it. I first got involved in politics through Youth CND in the mid-1980's. A lot of people involved at that time were either in the Young socialists or other lefty or Trot groups which did not appeal to me at all. I met some women who lived at Fastlane Peace Camp and we set up a women's group within YCND. There were very few women actually involved in the group which ran the campaign offices in Glasgow so we decided to send a mailing to all the young women members in Scotland to invite them to a meeting. We were totally overwhelmed when 30 women turned up, many of whom had never been to their own local group meeting, never mind a national one. Unfortunately, we did not have the support of most of the young guys in YCND or the older CND members, who were always complaining about how much money we were spending on sending out our newsletter and that we were 'stealing members', so the group did not really manage to keep going. I left YCND in 1987, by which time I had got really disillusioned, especially after a paper I had written for a conference turned up under someone else's name. An older YCND guy had stolen my ideas.

I was not really active politically for a while after that. I was on a scheme working for a community newspaper and through that I went on a few May Day marches with folk from the unemployed worker's centre. I eventually got a job in a workers co-operative where I met my first anarchists who got me into reading Class War and stuff by Emma Goldman. I started going to Anti-Fascist Action meetings and demos but there did not seem to be many women at them. Most of the women I knew were lefties but I only knew one who was what I would call an anarchist.

It was not until I went to the Anarchist Summer School in 1993 that I realised there were a lot of women anarchists about. Having talked to the women I met there, we discovered that 'til then we had all pretty much thought we were the only woman anarchist in Glasgow. Out of the summer school a new Glasgow Anarchist group was formed. Most of the women who lived in Glasgow and had been to the summer school came to these meetings. We decided to set up a women's group to look at issues that affected us as women anarchists and also to see how we could attract more women to the larger group.

As we expected this move was met with opposition and derision by some men in the Glasgow Anarchist group who felt that we would split off from them when in fact, we all still attended the meetings. At this point there were seven women involved in the group. Most of us were from the Glasgow area but we also had women from Spain, Sweden and New Zealand who had moved to the city. We could not afford to hire halls for our meetings, so we used to get together once every few weeks at one of our flats. At first the meetings were well attended but it soon became clear that it was difficult for us all to meet due to other commitments like studying and looking after our children. Several of the women stopped going to the Glasgow Anarchist, I believe for the same reasons - the idea of having a creche was a source of hilarity amongst a lot of the men. Those meetings had also got bogged down in a lot of of squabbling about things like aims and principles, which frankly bored a lot of people, not just the women, although I think that our tolerance level for that kind of nit-picking is pretty low.

Sadly, the women's group drifted apart and by the summer of 1994 it was really just myself trying to gee the other women up, unsuccessfully. In our short life we did accomplish some good things. We disrupted a couple of anti-abortion meetings, spent a weekend at a women's action at Faslane Peace Camp and had an excellent and well attended celebration of International Women's Day 1994.

The women anarchists in Glasgow still support anarchist events and demos. A lot of the problems we had with some of us being at college or university seem to have lessened after graduations and the women with children are getting their child care sorted out. Hopefully, with the Solidarity Centre now up and running giving us a city centre meeting place; the setting up of a national Anarchist Women's newsletter and a lot of women's activities surrounding the Women's Library and groups like the Lesbian Avengers, we will try and get a women's anarchist group going again. There are women involved in the centre who are very keen to resurrect the group and some of the former group are also interested. So watch this space! It looks like the Glasgow Women Anarchists are back!

J.L.A August 1995 anti (c)



## A Short Biography of Lorenzo Komboa Ervin

Lorenzo Komboa Ervin was born and raised in Chattanooga, Tennessee in 1947; what he calls the "...segregated South..." was an environment of violence, racism, poverty and rejection. A youth street gang member, Ervin joined the NAACP youth group when he was 12 years old and took part in the 1960 sit-in protests which changed racial discrimination in public accommodations in the city. After being drafted and after serving two years in the U.S. Army, (where he was a Vietnam anti-war organizer and was court-martialed), he joined the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee in 1967 shortly before it merged (temporarily) with the more militant Black Panther Party.

In the wake of the urban Black rebellions that rocked the U.S. after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King in the Spring of 1968, an attempt was made to frame Ervin on weapons charges and for planning to kill a local Klan leader. In order to escape prosecution in these charges Ervin hijacked a plane to Cuba in February 1969. It was while in Cuba and later in the then-Republic of Czechoslovakia, that he first became disillusioned with state socialism, recognizing it as dictatorship period, not the "dictatorship of the proletariat" as various Communist governments claimed. In Prague (the Czechoslovak capital), Ervin was betrayed to U.S. officials by pro-CIA elements left over from the Dubcek regime shortly after the Soviet invasion of the country. Briefly captured and held at the American Consulate, he fled to East Berlin where he was kidnapped by a special team of by American and West German special agents sent to recapture him. He was drugged and tortured during interrogation in the basement of the U.S. Consulate for almost a week, and after almost dying from this mistreatment, he was illegally brought back to the USA where it was falsely announced by the State department and the FBI in a press conference that he had "turned himself in" at JFK airport.

After a farce of a trial in a small town in Georgia, where he faced the death penalty before an all-white judge, jury, prosecutor and defense attorneys (appointed by the court), he was sentenced to the rest of his life in prison. Ervin remained politically active in prison where he was first introduced to the ideals of Anarchism in the late 1970's. He read many books on the subject sent by prison book clubs, and his case was adopted by the Anarchist Black Cross, an international prisoner support movement. Also in prison, Ervin wrote several Anarchist pamphlets that are probably the most widely read writings on anarchism and the Black liberation movement. **Anarchism and the Black Revolution** is still popular, and has gone through several printings.

He was also involved in many prison struggles, the early 1970's prison union organizing campaigns and the Black prisoner movement of that period. Because of years of solitary confinement and prison mail censorship, his case was kept in obscurity, and it was not until he was one of the "Marion Brothers", a group of prisoners who became well known as they struggled against the first Control Unit at Marion Federal Penitentiary, that his case became a public concern. Ervin's own legal challenges and an international campaign eventually led to his release from prison after 15 years of incarceration.

After his release Ervin returned to Chattanooga, where for over ten years, he remained active with the Concerned Citizens for Justice, a local civil rights group, fighting police brutality and organizing against the Ku Klux Klan. In 1987 Ervin helped organize a major mobilization against the Klan that resulted in the Klan being run out of town. Also in 1987, Ervin was primarily responsible for the filing of a major civil rights lawsuit that successfully forced the city of Chattanooga to change its structure of governance on the basis that it systematically disempowered the Black community. Ervin now lives in Atlanta, Georgia.

Since late 1993, Ervin has been on a North American speaking tour talking about his experiences with other community groups, college groups, and other interested forces. He has also been trying to build an anti-authoritarian network of community organizers all over North America to build a new radical grassroots movement for social change.

**SOLIDARITY**

**FEDERATION**

AN OUTLINE OF  
OUR IDEAS ABOUT  
ORGANISATION  
&  
WHAT WE ARE  
FIGHTING FOR TODAY  
(see next page)

## POWERLESS? FRUSTRATED? ANGRY?

In this society we are ripped off at work, have little control over much of our lives, and we are expected to quietly accept this. We reject this set up as one run solely in the interests of the bosses. Political parties offer us no alternative. We can't change this on our own, we have to organise together.

Economics - money, if you like - underpins all forms of oppression in this society. Changing society's economic heart is essential, and is also the most pressing fight for working class people.

We can only make a successful social revolution through a struggle which not only overcomes the existing power structure, but also lays - in working class culture and in fact - the foundations of a free society. To do this we have to organise the right way to get the right result. Revolutionary consciousness has to flow from the structures and methods we use. To present a set of limited demands achievable within existing society (*see next page*) may seem to be contradictory, but to set impossible demands is to fail.

### Revolutionary Unionism - the alternative, run by workers for workers

A social revolution can only be made by the working class as a whole, and a real revolutionary organisation must be able to include all class-conscious workers. We are heartily sick of the "revolutionary left" and their games. We despise their perpetual courtship of defeat and the relish with which they greet a sell-out. It is only by winning, and by organising effective action around immediate issues to force concessions from the bosses and the state through our own efforts that we will rediscover our power, and use it to change society for good.

#### A different kind of union:

- **Direct Action** (that is stopping the bosses' and the state's attacks, or taking what we want, ourselves; not "campaigning" for it, protesting about it, or having union officials or politicians plead on our behalf); and **Direct Democracy** - decision-making and control of all actions, negotiations and policy-making by the rank and file.

- We refuse to limit our agenda to simple "bread-and-butter" issues like pay and working conditions

(although these are crucial, and any union must deliver on these, or become irrelevant).

This means fighting against the bosses' attacks, and also for **Workers' Self-management** of production and the end of the **Wages System** and bosses. (**Self-management** means that workers own and manage the enterprise they work in collectively. Only the workers who do a job know best how to do it efficiently, safely and well. We are opposed to the **Wages System** because it is the means by which we are paid less than the value of our work, with bosses, shareholders, etc. living off the difference. Instead of this exploitation, we want to create a society based on the principles called **Libertarian Communism** - from each according to their ability, to each according to their needs.)

We reject the trades union/political party division embraced by both the official Labour Movement and the "revolutionary left". A workers' organisation must both fight back and work to change society, and its organisational principles must avoid creating "leaders" and "followers".

#### This is how revolutionary unionism works:

- All decisions affecting workplace issues are made by **Workers' Assemblies** - regular mass meetings for all workers - with the power to make binding decisions and with



control over all committees and delegates elected by them.

- Everyone who accepts the binding nature of decisions, and takes part in any action, has the right to participate in **Workers' Assemblies**. The right to have a say in decisions can not be bought by payment of union dues (nor denied to those who don't pay dues, but who meet the above conditions). Class solidarity demands that scabs and management are kept out.

- Anything won by workers is the result of effective action and solid organisation, or of the credible threat of the former, not of good will on the part of management. At present, any attempt to take effective action runs into a minefield of anti-union laws and victimisation. Sometimes it also has to face hostility from the existing unions. The best defence against legal action is to win any dispute as quickly as possible. This can demonstrate that the anti-union laws are useless in the face of well-organised defiance. It will also show that workers can retaliate against punitive measures, and defend victimised activists.

- The anti-union laws aim to isolate workers and to force us to fight alone, and we need to attack them by giving and demanding solidarity between workers, by picketing and by boycotting. The best form of action to take must be decided by the workers ourselves, based on our knowledge of what will be most effective. As a general rule the action which causes maximum financial loss in a short period is the best. There is no point taking ineffective action as a gesture. It is important that any campaign of action has maximum involvement from workers affected. It must not divide, demobilise or demoralise people.

- The election of a *workplace convenor*, *Safety Representatives*, and any negotiators, dispute committees or *shop stewards* is by

## Today we are fighting for:

- A maximum 35 hour working week, with an end to overtime, and full compensation for anti-social hours, without loss of earnings;
- Full employment rights for part-time and temporary workers, with immediate effect from starting a job;
- An end to bogus "self-employment" and individual contracts, free collective bargaining direct with the real boss;
- An end to wage differentials, equal pay for work of equal value, consolidation of bonuses, overtime, etc. for all;
- The right to retire at 55 for men and women on full pension;
- The right to a minimum of six weeks' holiday a year with full pay, sick pay at full rates, one year's maternity/paternity leave, flexible hours and easy access to full childcare facilities, and a minimum of two weeks' dependency leave;
- The right to hold Workers' Assemblies in working hours without loss of pay, and to adequate facility time to carry out union duties;
- The right to strike or take other forms of industrial action without fear of dismissal, including solidarity action, picketing and boycotts;
- A healthy and safe working environment, full access to all relevant information, and the right to stop work without loss of earnings or threats of victimisation until any defects are corrected;
- Freedom of association, expression and speech which does not directly or indirectly discriminate on grounds of gender, race, nationality, sexuality, age, disability or health;
- Recognition of care work (including bringing up children) and domestic labour as being both socially useful and worthy of full remuneration, and of flexible domestic partnerships;
- Decent, affordable and accessible housing and transport;
- Free, accessible and quality healthcare;
- Free, accessible and quality education;
- An end to the treatment of healthy and uncontaminated food, air and water as luxuries not meant for working class people; and the replacement of agricultural, production and transport methods which damage our environment by sustainable alternatives.

## Tomorrow: control of our lives

the **Workers' Assembly**. It must be held at least annually, preferably on an ad hoc basis wherever practical. All officials must be unpaid, and must get enough facility time from the management. They are accountable to and recallable by an Assembly convened as swiftly as adequate notice can be given. *Shop stewards* or other delegates don't have the power to negotiate without a mandate. They must get one before negotiating, and get the result approved by the **Workers' Assembly**.

- The *revolutionary union* wants all workers to join, but rejects the passive, "check-off" membership of the existing unions. Revolutionary union members must pay sub-

scriptions, and do organisational work. They must also sell the revolutionary union and its principles and methods to non-members. A revolutionary union also aims to form a *workplace branch* as an active organisation in opposition to passive, consultative bodies like **Works Councils**. (These are common on the continent and promoted by the *Maastricht Treaty's Social Chapter* - unions run slates of candidates like in a parliamentary election, and they represent you just like your MP does - ie not at all.) Permanent, bureaucratic negotiating bodies aren't much better. Ideally all workers should join the *workplace branch* so that it becomes the **Workers' Assembly**.

- Solidarity between workers in the same industry is encouraged on local, regional, national and international levels. This is based on direct links between workplace organisations, and on forming *industrial networks* at each level. Organisation beyond each workplace doesn't mean giving up control to a "higher level", either to officials or to lay committees. Revolutionary unionism organises on the basis of **Federalism**, where all co-ordinating bodies are directly elected, and composed of delegates who have a specific mandate from their constituency. Initiative and decision-making power remain with the **Workers' Assembly** or *workplace branch*, which has the ultimate right to withdraw from any body which tries to impose decisions on it. (No-one should hold office on more than one level, eg a *workplace convenor* should not also be a delegate to a local industrial committee, etc.) The **Solidarity Federation** is already networking on an industrial basis, and aims to form *workplace branches* in order to turn loose *industrial networks* into federalist *industrial unions*.

- A *revolutionary union* does not simply have an industrial structure, but as it aims to organise the *working class as a whole*, it also has local and regional structures. All members are part of a **Local**, which exists to provide solidarity, support and resources to workers in its area. This serves to provide help and back-up where there are few or no members in a workplace. It works to recruit workers to the revolutionary union, and to defend them in the face of management attacks. It provides experience, support and resources to help with organisation and recruitment. It demands solidarity from other workers in the area in the case of disputes. **Locals** provide meeting space, information on workplace law, health and safety, company profits, etc.; and to make political literature and educational resources available to workers.

- A **Local** is also a base for action on a wider social agenda, not simply for supporting workplace activity. This means the *revolutionary union* can address all working class issues, wherever and whenever they come up.

## We want real social change

Today our lives are defined by work, or by our exclusion from it. Life is split into "work" and "leisure". Cash is what controls us, far more than the threat or use of violence. Our labour is sold cheaply to the boss who owns what we produce through the **Wages System**. Leisure is supposed to be freedom, but is really what the bosses get us to pay for to relieve the boredom. A *revolutionary union* must end this division, and fight against it in existing society. This means demanding work which is useful, interesting and fulfilling, not organised by parasites for their own advantage. We'll only get this by workers' control leading to **Self-management**.

### "A decent society means reducing the amount of boring and degrading work"

Similarly, we've had enough of the passive consumption for profit which passes for relaxation and recreation. Everyone must have the opportunity to contribute to society if they wish to benefit from it, and get to use their full range of abilities both for the common good and for fun. A decent society means reducing the amount of boring and degrading work through technology and responsible behaviour.

A useful contribution to society is not just going to work for the bosses' profits. It is also house

work and care work which are not part of the cash economy, but which capitalism relies on - usually through the unpaid and unsung work of women - in order to reproduce its workforce and maintain social stability. Without this work society would collapse, but the bosses won't admit this and pay for it because it would cost them too much. We must make them, but not with **Wages** - we want an end to exploitation, not its expansion.

We also need to organise life to support this work, not to make individuals slaves to it, but to take away the burden and make it a choice. Equally, those who choose to do it must be valued, not taken for granted. Carers must control their own lives, not have them dictated by "society".

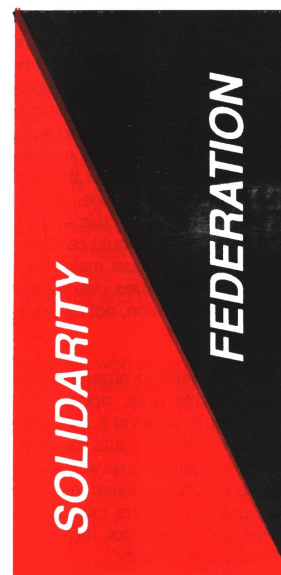
Cultural exclusion, discrimination, harassment and violence on the grounds of gender, race, nationality, sexuality, age or "disability" permeate all aspects of society, and won't be stopped by slogans and simple demands. These are oppressive in their own right, not just tools of the bosses which some people think will disappear if different people get power. They aren't just bad because they "divide the working class", either.

The *revolutionary union* is not just about the workplace, but all human life. We need to link workers' organisation in public services with organisations of local people who can work out what services are needed and how they need to work. Then we can challenge their control by government and councils, so they belong to working people.

### "The revolutionary union is not just about the workplace but all human life"

*Continues on next page...*





**"We need to build a basis for more permanent organisation...."** ....Continued from previous page

The fight against the Poll Tax proved that it is possible to organise outside the workplace, and that we have strength if united in a common aim. Anti-Poll Tax groups disappeared with its defeat, however, and we need to build a basis for more permanent organisation. Where we can start is by organising street or estate meetings to discuss issues which affect the areas we live in and what we can do about them. For issues which have a wider impact, local action committees can be organised on a **Federalist** basis. It is only through organising and resisting in this way that we stand a chance of gaining something in common on which to build community

Our housing, transport, healthcare, education and childcare are controlled by those concerned with profit and political advantage. Our environment, food and water are polluted because profits mean more than our lives. Power and control - not seizing power through control of the state, but taking it into our own hands through our own organisations - are the key to solving most of the problems we suffer.

*We need genuine revolutionary organisation where we work and where we live to do it. The **Solidarity Federation** is building such organisation, and working to establish **Direct Democracy**. Join us in this.*

Distributed by:

**SOLIDARITY FEDERATION**  
PO BOX 29  
MANCHESTER  
M15 5HW

**PUBLIC SERVICE WORKERS' NETWORK**  
PO BOX 1681  
LONDON  
N8 7LE

**TRANSPORT WORKERS' NETWORK**  
PO BOX 73  
NORWICH  
NR3 1QD

**EDUCATION WORKERS' NETWORK**  
PO BOX 29  
MANCHESTER  
M15 5HW

## THE AIMS OF THE SOLIDARITY FEDERATION

The **Solidarity Federation** is an organisation of workers which seeks to destroy capitalism and the state. Capitalism because it exploits, oppresses and kills working people and wrecks the environment for profit worldwide. The state because it can only maintain hierarchy and privilege for the classes who control it and their servants; it cannot be used to fight the oppression and exploitation that are the consequences of hierarchy and the source of privilege. *In their place we want a society based on workers' self-management, solidarity, mutual aid and libertarian communism.*

That society can only be achieved by working class organisation based on the same principles - *revolutionary unions*. These are not *Trades Unions* only concerned with "bread and butter" issues like pay and conditions. Revolutionary unions are means for working people to organise and fight all the issues - both in the workplace and outside - which arise from our oppression. We recognise that not all oppression is economic, but can be based on gender, race, sexuality, or anything our rulers find useful. Unless we organise in this way, politicians - some claiming to be revolutionary - will be able to exploit us for their own ends.

The **Solidarity Federation** consists of **Industrial Networks** and **Locals** which are the nuclei of future revolutionary unions and centres for working class struggle on a local level. Our activities are based on **Direct Action** - action by workers ourselves, not through intermediaries like politicians and union officials; our decisions are made through participation of the membership. We welcome all working people who agree with our aims and principles, and who will spread propaganda for social revolution and revolutionary unions. We recognise that the class struggle is worldwide, and are affiliated to the **International Workers' Association**, whose *Principles of Revolutionary Unionism* we share.

**SOLIDARITY FEDERATION - INTERNATIONAL WORKERS' ASSOCIATION**

# BENEFIT GIG

for the creation of an Autonomous Centre in Aberdeen

## TOXIK EPHEX

*(Aberdeen's favourite punks)*

*Anders Ingram & Pete McConville*  
*(acoustic duo)*

*Fiona Keenan*  
*(solo acoustic artist)*



**MORE TBC**

**CAFE DRUMMOND, Belmont Str.**  
**Tuesday evening 4th of May**  
**entrance £2**





Edinburgh Earth First! ☆ Glasgow Earth First!

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# PROTEST AGAINST MOTORWAY MADNESS

---

**Come to the demo!**

*The Scottish Office*

*New St. Andrews House*

*Edinburgh*

**Thursday 10th November**

**10.30 am at the main entrance  
near the bus station**

---

☆ **NO M77 AYR ROAD ROUTE**

☆ **NO 2ND FORTH ROAD BRIDGE**

☆ **NO NEW M80**

---

*Road traffic* is projected to increase by 80% by the year 2025 according to Department of Transport figures, with a similar rise in associated pollution and congestion.

Motorway building is no solution.

*We will not stand by* and watch our fresh air being polluted, our countryside destroyed and our communities ripped apart. The M77 in Glasgow, the proposed 2nd Forth Road Bridge and the proposed new M80 route near Kilsyth will all do this. We will not stand by and watch them being bulldozed through.

Motor vehicle pollution is implicated in the increase of childhood asthma and in causing some cancers, as well as being a major cause of global warming and acid rain.

It is vital that we take a firm stand *against* the growth in road traffic, instead of encouraging it by building more motorways. It is time to invest in sustainable, sensible transport systems.

*This demo* is organised by Glasgow and Edinburgh Earth First! and is open to everyone campaigning against motorway madness.

*For more information* telephone: 0141 331 2473  
or 0131 557 0718



Welcome to the second Glasgow Anarchist mailout! We are sorry that this one is a bit late, but hopefully you will be able to support some of the events listed for June.

Following the May mailing, there are two events worth following-up:

1. Anti-BNP demo in Dundee.

The day was a success, with the fascists being sent not-so-merrily on their way. Unfortunately, there were many arrests. A support group has been set up for defendants. Please write or send donations to: Dundee Anti-fascist Defence Fund, Hon Treasurer Councillor Mary Ward, 13 Union Place, Dundee.

2. Scottish Anti-Poll Tax conference.

Much of the debate centred on the Trafalgar square riot, with accusations that some people came looking for trouble. Much reference was made to Class War on this point. There is to be an internal inquiry.

Two non-Militants stood for election to the executive, to stress the point that grass-roots, non-Militant activists had no voice within the federation. They were virtually booed off.

A side-meeting was more promising and constructive, with "independant" community Poll Tax groups and activists planning an 'Open Forum on the Poll Tax', to be held at the end of June. Emphasis here will be on learning from each other, sharing skills and tactics, and making contacts with other people we can work with. For people involved in the campaign, it is not to be missed! Details below.

The Trafalgar Square Defence Campaign (TSDC) is asking for individuals, anti-poll tax groups etc. to affiliate to it. It is also asking for support for the following two prisoners, who have been on remand since the riot, on very serious charges.

\* Steven Foxley, KR33331, Feltham Youth Custody and Remand Centre, Bedfont Road, Feltham, Middlesex, TW13 4ND.

\* David King, RA0711, Wormwood Scrubs, Ducane Road, London, W12.

The address of the campaign is TSDC, c/o Haldane Society of Lawyers, Panther House, 38 Mount Pleasant, London, WC1.

Included in this mailout is a letter of support for John Perrotti. Please read about his treatment in either Counter-Information or Inside Information, and re-write the standard letter in your own words. Working in solidarity with prisoners is vital, and pressure from outside is important. Past letter-writing campaigns have had minor successes. Please send a copy of your letter to both the prison and state-governors.

If you have any relevant dates or information you would like included in the next mailout, please send them before the end of June. Please inform us if you do not want to receive the mailout again, so that we can take your name off the mailing-list.

Dates.

9th. June. Support Ravenscraig March/Miners' Gala. Edinburgh. Assemble 10.30am Regents Road. March 11.00am to Hollyrood Park.

13th. June. Anti-Poll Tax aggregate meeting. 7.30 pm, Strathclyde University Students' Union, John Street. People can attend as delegates or as visitors.

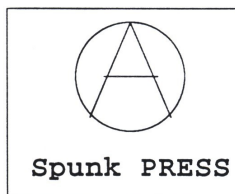
21st. June. Glasgow Anarchist Group meeting. 7.30 pm, City Halls, Albion Street, door F.

30th. June. Scottish Anti-Poll Tax Open Forum. Stirling. Contact M. Murray, 31 Leven Street, Pollakshields for details.

\*To be arranged: Anarchists, Direct Action and the Poll Tax meeting.

\*To be arranged: Glasgow Anti-fascists meeting (this is a new group).

Please phone 429 0336, or write to Glasgow Anarchist Group, PO Box 239, Glasgow, G5 0LW, if you would like to attend either of the last two events.



## *Electronic Anarchy*

### **Call for material**

**Spunk Press** is a computer based archive of anarchist material, that is made freely available to anyone with access to the global computer networks; we can also put the material onto computer disks on request.

If you have anything on computer disks - articles on anarchism, book catalogues, reviews, fiction, poetry - that you would like to make available to several million people worldwide, let us know! There must be a lot of material out there - if you use a personal computer to compose articles, we can take them. If you publish a catalogue and keep it on computer, we can make this available worldwide.

Write to us at the following address, including the type and format of computer disk and the word processing/desktop publishing software used to create it, and a telephone number - or just include the disk with your letter. If you would like a current catalogue, write and ask for one.

|                              |
|------------------------------|
| <b>Spunk PRESS</b>           |
| c/o ACF                      |
| Freedom Bookshop             |
| 84B Whitechapel High Street, |
| London E1 7QX.               |

See the back of this leaflet for our manifesto, and a list of disk and tape formats that we can definitely handle.



The excuse for the existence of **Spunk PRESS** is the desire of some individuals to see alternative literature continue to flourish, but this time online!

The policy of **Spunk PRESS** is to act as an independent publisher of works converted to, or produced in, electronic format and to spread them as far as possible on the Internet and in the BBS communities free of charge. The work may not necessarily originate from someone with network access. The major interest of **Spunk PRESS** is alternative literature and anarchist material, both old, converted, and newly produced.

We want to help zine editors, flypost authors and others who desire a wider audience to convert or to produce their works in an electronic format and give them the opportunity to use our distribution channels, FTP sites, mailing lists and whatever other means we might have within our powers. We welcome fanzines, pamphlets, books and portions of books, articles, manifestos, quotations, interviews, bibliographies, reviews, posters, and other material, both in-print and out-of-print.

**Spunk PRESS** is run by an editorial collective‡ with members in Holland, Sweden, the U.S.A. and the U.K. We use *electronic mail* to coordinate and administer the archive. If you would like to reach the editorial collective of **Spunk PRESS**, write to:

|                              |
|------------------------------|
| <b>Spunk PRESS</b>           |
| c/o ACF                      |
| Freedom Bookshop             |
| 84B Whitechapel High Street, |
| London E1 7QX, U.K.          |

|                        |
|------------------------|
| <b>Spunk PRESS</b>     |
| c/o Practical Anarchy  |
| PO Box 173             |
| Madison, WI 53701-0173 |
| U.S.A                  |

If you have access to electronic mail, you should be able to reach us at [jack@cwi.nl](mailto:jack@cwi.nl)

#### DISK AND TAPE FORMATS

If you cannot get your submission onto the Internet - you do not have access to electronic mail from a machine that can read your disk, or tape - we can convert a variety of disk; and tape physical formats, depending on the logical format, including at least the following:

- 3.5in floppy disk; MS-DOS (any density), MAC HFS (System 6/7), UNIX filesystem/*cpio*
- 5.25in floppy disk; MS-DOS (any density), UNIX filesystem/*cpio*
- Exabyte Video-8 cassettes, both 2Gb and 5Gb, also compressed.
- DEC TK50 and TK70; UNIX *tar/cpio* format†
- Data DAT 4mm; UNIX *tar/cpio* format†
- 9track magnetic tape; UNIX *tar/cpio* format†
- Standard 8track 800bpi, 1600bpi and 6250bpi magnetic tape
- 8mm 60 Mb QIC-20 and 180 Mb QIC-24 tape cartridge; UNIX *tar/cpio* format†
- Magneto-optical disk; UNIX filesystem
- CD-ROM (attached to MS-DOS machines)

‡ Who have never met each other!

† or anything *del* can handle

# **FOXHUNTING**

**IT'S TIME THE KILLING STOPPED!**



**"Foxhunting is a noble and ancient art"**

**Alistair Campbell, Master, Glasgow Foxhounds,  
The Paisley Daily Express, Monday July 7th 1997**

**The Campaign to Ban Hunting Wild  
Animals With Dogs and How You Can Help**

**• Events Guide October/November •**



## Glasgow's Wild Dogfight Shame!

There has never been a more critical time in hunting's long blood-drenched history than now. As Glasgow's Foxhunt begins its business on Saturday November 1st, the Labour Party would seem to be prevaricating in its pre-election promise to proscribe hunting. Consequently, Scottish Wildlife Action seeks your help to curtail these wildlife-killers!

## Labour Party Lobby!

Friday October 31st  
Keir Hardie House  
1 Lyndoch Place, Glasgow G3  
2pm – 4pm

Assembly point: outside Hillhead Underground, 1.30pm  
Subsequent lobbys will occur on consecutive Fridays – 7th, 14th, 21st  
November; meeting at Keir Hardie House, 2pm – 4pm

## Candlelight Vigil

Friday November 28th  
Scottish Labour Party Headquarters  
Keir Hardie House  
1 Lyndoch Place, Glasgow G3

From 12.00 midnight on Thursday, Scottish Wildlife Action will show our support for a Bill to ban hunting wild animals with dogs, due before the House of Commons on Friday afternoon.

Will you, your family and friends join us? Only a campaign involving many ordinary people, using every channel of influence will force the government to act against hunting.

## PUBLIC MEETING

**Wednesday October 29th,  
7.00pm–10.00pm  
Woodside Halls (nearest  
underground: George's Cross)**

**Videos, Speakers, Information Stalls,  
Sales Goods**

## Anti-Hunt Gathering

Saturday, November 1st  
Huston House, Huston, Renfrewshire  
10.30am – 12.00pm  
Transport departs George Square, Glasgow at 9.30am  
As the foxhunt season begins, Scottish Wildlife Action will confront Glasgow Hunters demanding that they switch immediately to draghunting, and to stop torturing wild creatures!  
Join us and add your voice to our peaceful protest.





PO Box 180, Glasgow G4 9AB

D'ye ken Jack Peel with  
his coat so red,  
Blood-dyed by Reynard  
where his torn brush bled?  
D'ye ken Jack Peel with his  
eyes so dead,  
With his blasts calling hell  
in the morning?

*Anon*



be relatives. Be sure to warn them so they are prepared to answer questions about you, if asked.

**INTERVIEWS.** Go dressed neatly and appropriately. Go by yourself. Be on time. Before the interview, try to find out something about the company. You can get this information from someone who works there or by researching it at the library or Employment Development Office. Be friendly during the interview. The only way for them to find out about your skills, interests and abilities is for you to tell them.

**APPLICATIONS.** Be sure to bring a pen. To make a good impression, follow the directions carefully and fill out the application neatly and completely.

---

For free counseling and more information about what recruiters might not be telling you, contact:

**Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors**  
405 14th St., #205, Oakland, CA 94612  
(510) 465-1617; [www.objector.org/](http://www.objector.org/)  
and 1515 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA 19102  
(215) 563-8787

*Pre-enlistment counseling, military and draft counseling.*

**AFSC Youth & Militarism Program**  
1501 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA 19102  
(215) 241-7176; [www.afsc.org/youthmil.htm](http://www.afsc.org/youthmil.htm)  
*Pre-enlistment, military & draft counseling.*

**War Resisters League**  
339 Lafayette St., New York, NY 10012  
(212) 228-0450; [www.warresisters.org](http://www.warresisters.org)  
*Pre-enlistment, military & draft counseling.*

**Project on Youth and Non-Military Opportunities**  
(Project YANO)

P.O. Box 230157, Encinitas, CA 92023  
(760) 634-3604; [www.projectyano.org](http://www.projectyano.org)

*Information on military recruitment, non-military career choices and college financing.*

Local contact:

Brochure produced by Project YANO, with thanks to Resist Inc., & A.J. Muste Memorial Institute. 4/06



## **What You Should Know Before Joining the Military**

# **The Military's Not Just a Job ...**



# **... It's Eight Years of Your Life!**



## ARE YOU CONSIDERING ENLISTMENT?

You've probably heard the ads and the recruiter's sales pitch. Sounds pretty good, doesn't it? All advertising does. But if military life doesn't live up to the advertising, you can't bring your enlistment agreement back to the recruiter for a refund. You are obligated to the military for a total of eight years, including time in the reserves when you could be recalled.

You wouldn't buy a car without looking under the hood. Don't enlist before you check out the reality of military life that lies behind the television ads and slick brochures. *Check it out carefully!*

## MILITARY DISCIPLINE AND LIVING CONDITIONS

Do you enjoy being bossed around or having someone constantly telling you what to do and how to do it? If not, you may have a hard time with military life. Federal law says that the military places "numerous restrictions on personal behavior that would not be acceptable in civilian society." Military members are subject to military law 24 hours a day – even if they are off duty and off base – from beginning to end of their term (10 U.S.C. Sec. 654). Disobedience in the military can result in court-martial, prison, or even the lifetime problem of a bad discharge.

Furthermore, Section C.9b of the enlistment agreement says *your status, pay, benefits and responsibilities in the military can change without warning and regardless of any promises in your agreement!* And the military can keep you past your enlistment term, as the Army has recently done to 50,000 soldiers under a policy called "stop-loss" (Reuters news service, 1/29/06).

Not surprisingly, a lot of people express unhappiness after joining the military. For example, in 2005, only 47% of enlistees in their first term were satisfied with their pay and the military way of life, and only 39% said they were likely to stay in the military. (2005 Status of Forces Survey of Active-Duty Members, Dept. of Defense)

## THE MILITARY JOB TRAINING MYTH

Many people join the military expecting to receive job training. But remember, military training is designed for *military* jobs, not to help you get a civilian job later. Even in the technically-oriented Air Force, many jobs require particular military skills

that won't do you much good in the civilian world.

If you get the training you were promised for a particular military occupation, you still might not get any experience in the job because the military doesn't have to use you in the field you requested. The enlistment agreement allows you to be assigned to whatever job the military wants you to do.

As stated by Vice President Richard Cheney back when he was Secretary of Defense, "The military is not a social welfare agency; it's not a jobs program."

## THE EASY MONEY FOR COLLEGE MYTH

Recruiters might promise you tens of thousands of "free" dollars for college, but *it's not free – you must work for it!* And *it's not automatic!* Unless you qualify for special jobs or sign up for an extra-long term, you'll never see the higher amounts of money. To qualify for any aid at all, you have to pay a \$1200 non-refundable deposit to the military. If you receive a less-than-honorable discharge (as about one in four people do), leave the military early (as one in three do), or later decide not to go to college, the military will keep your deposit and give you nothing.

According to the Veterans Affairs Dept., over half of the veterans who signed up for educational benefits when they joined the military have received nothing, which means the military takes in a lot of money that will not be paid back. In other words, in many cases it's the military that profits, not veterans.

Colleges can help you find aid if you need it, and it pays to investigate these options before agreeing to give away years of your life to the military. Once you complete school, you can start earning the higher wages of a college graduate right away.





## THE MYTH OF EQUALITY

The military claims it treats everyone the same, regardless of skin color; but in reality, it has serious problems with inequality in the ranks. In 2004, 36.2% of the enlisted personnel were people of color, but they made up only 18.2% of the officers. Latinos in the Marine Corps, for example, made up 14.5% of the enlisted ranks, but only 6.2% of the officers (Dept. of Defense, *Demographic Profile of the DoD and Coast Guard*, Sept. 2004).

Discrimination against gays, lesbians and bisexuals is not only intense within the military, it is official policy. Since the so-called "Don't ask, don't tell" policy was introduced, efforts to kick lesbian and gay personnel out of the military have continued; the pace of forced discharges has increased, and violence and threats against those suspected of being gay are routine.

## WHAT WOMEN EXPERIENCE

Women often join the military to gain skills and break out of traditional roles. However, while the range of military work open to women has increased over the years, women are still limited in the positions open to them. And within those positions, they are often given traditional tasks: according to one government report, "many women report that they are not allowed to work at the jobs for which they were trained . . . [and] that they are routinely assigned clerical or administrative duties instead of being given the opportunity to work in the full range of their occupations" (GAO/NSIAD-99-27, 11/98).

Sexual harassment and rape are a real threat to women in the military. One survey found that 30% of women reported being victims of rape or attempted rape while in the military; 75% had experienced sexual harassment (Reuters Health, 3/14/03).

## YOU WILL LOSE BASIC RIGHTS

- If you leave your work without permission, you can be arrested.
- Any disobedience can result in criminal punishment.
- You can be punished without the right to see a lawyer or have a trial.
- Your right to say what you think when and how you want will be restricted.
- Individual expression through the way you dress and wear your hair won't be tolerated.
- You will be subject to routine urine tests for drugs.

"We soldiers have faced death in Iraq without reason or justification. How many more must die? How many more tears must be shed before Americans awake and demand the return of the men and women whose job it is to protect them rather than their leader's interest?" Tim Predmore, 101st Airborne Div., Iraq, *The Guardian*, 9/19/03

"We're dealing with absolute financial devastation. We're on the verge of losing everything. We're civilians who signed up expecting to do duty in the state. We did not expect him to be deployed for years at a time." Korina Self, wife of National Guard soldier in Iraq, *Sacramento Bee*, 12/6/03

## WAR—YOU THINK IT WON'T HAPPEN TO YOU?

Many of the U.S. soldiers who fought in Vietnam, Grenada, Panama and Iraq never expected they would be the ones to see combat. Many of the Reserve and National Guard soldiers who were sent to fight in Iraq – for up to two years! – were led to believe they would stay in the U.S. and only have to fight in emergencies. But the main purpose of the military is to fight wars, and if you enlist, you will not be allowed to refuse if you are ordered to fight for something you don't believe in – like protecting a foreign dictator or oil industry profits.

As many have recently learned from the Iraq invasion, signing up for the National Guard, Reserves or a "non-combat" job does not mean you won't be in combat. And joining the Navy or Air Force does not mean you won't be transferred to ground duty in combat zones, like the thousands of sailors and airmen who have been sent to Iraq.

If you enter the military and later discover that your religious, political or moral beliefs won't allow you to go to war, it can be very hard for you to get out. *Before* enlisting, it's important to talk to a veteran or someone who has experienced war and decide if it is something you can accept.

## DEP: THE DELAYED ENTRY PROGRAM

If you have signed up for the DEP (the Army calls it the "Future Soldiers Training Program") but have changed your mind, many recruiters will tell you that you can't get out of it, or that you must report to boot camp to be released. This is not true. To quit the DEP, there are some simple steps you should



take *before* your date to report for basic training. Your recruiter normally will not help you, and you should **NOT** go to a military base if you are told you must report there to get released. For free help with getting out of the DEP, contact one of the groups listed on this brochure, or contact the **GI Rights Hotline, 800-394-9544, [www.girights.org](http://www.girights.org)**

### THINGS YOU SHOULD ASK YOURSELF BEFORE ENLISTING:

- Are you prepared to fight in any war, in any place, at anytime that the government orders you to?
- Have you really considered and checked out all the college financial aid and job training and placement possibilities in your community?
- Is joining the military something you want to do, or are you being pressured into it by other people?
- Is this a spur of the moment decision you may regret later?
- Have you talked to any of the many veterans who didn't like the military? Why didn't they make the military a career?
- If you become unhappy after you enlist, do you know how hard it will be to get out?
- If you get a less-than-honorable discharge, do you know how hard it will be to get it changed?

### 9 THINGS TO REMEMBER WHEN YOU TALK TO A RECRUITER

- 1) **Recruiters are interested in you in order to make a sale.** If they fail to meet their quota of recruits, they can be forced to work overtime. One veteran recruiter told a reporter for the *Albany Times Union*, "I've been recruiting for years and I don't know one recruiter who wasn't dishonest about it. I did it myself."
- 2) **Take along a parent or friend as a witness if you go see a recruiter.** That way you'll have somebody to back up your side of the story if there is a dispute over whether you got what you were promised.
- 3) **If you have a police record or medical condition, don't hide it—even if the recruiter tells you it doesn't matter.** You'll be the one in trouble later on, not the recruiter.
- 4) **DON'T sign any papers until you have taken them home and read them over carefully.** If you ask for a copy of the enlistment agreement, they must give it to you. If they refuse, don't sign the

agreement. REMEMBER, you're not in the military yet; they can't order you around.

5) **Talk the enlistment agreement over with your parents and friends, and with a trained civilian counselor.** Ask about the parts of the agreement that you don't understand.

6) **GET ALL PROMISES IN WRITING and have them signed by the recruitment representative!** Spoken promises are worthless, but also remember that even written ones can be changed under the contract.

7) **Get copies of everything you sign.** Keep the copies in a safe place.

8) **If you want one of the military's enlistment options, be sure to ask the recruiter the following questions:**

- For how long do I have to enlist to get this option?
- Are there any extra requirements (schooling, physical standards, security clearance, etc.) that I have to meet to qualify for this option? What happens if I don't meet them, but I've already enlisted?
- For options that include assignment to a particular base or area: Am I guaranteed this assignment for the entire time I'm in?

9) **REMEMBER: If you don't like your new job, they don't have to let you switch, and you can't quit!** Early discharges that don't also punish you can be hard to get.

### FINDING A NON-MILITARY JOB

Looking for a job is hard work, and the better prepared you are, the greater your chance to find, get and keep the job you want. Following are some job-hunting tips:

**KNOW YOURSELF.** Think about all of the job experience you have. Don't forget to include volunteer work, baby-sitting, home carpentry, or painting. Put together a résumé that outlines your skills, abilities and interests. If you don't know how to put together a résumé, check with the library or career center at your school. Think about what you want to do in your life. Talk to people who have the type of job you are interested in. Ask how they got their first job.

**REFERENCES.** Employers want to know who you are and if you are trustworthy and reliable. Before you go for a job interview, get the names, addresses and phone numbers of three people who can tell your employer what kind of person you are. They should have known you for at least a year and not



**REJECT IT.**

**REFUSE IT.**

**RESIST IT.**

**WITH ALL**

**YOUR MIGHT.**

**FLEE FROM IT.**

**ITS GOT NOTHING**

**TO DO WITH**

**TERRORISM. THATS**

**JUST THE COVER**

**TO INTRODUCE IT.**

**PIMPERNEL.**

**Beware.**

**the proposed**

**I.D CARDS**

**are a prelude to**

**the mark of the**

**Beast 666**

AND IT WAS GIVEN UNTO HIM TO MAKE WAR  
WITH THE SAINTS, AND TO OVERCOME  
THEM; AND POWER WAS GIVEN HIM OVER ALL  
KINDREDS, AND TONGUES, AND NATIONS. AND ALL  
THAT DWELL UPON THE EARTH SHALL WORSHIP  
HIM, WHOSE NAMES ARE NOT WRITTEN IN THE  
BOOK OF LIFE OF THE LAMB SLAIN FROM THE  
FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD. REV. 13. 7-8  
AND HE CAUSETH ALL, BOTH SMALL AND  
GREAT, RICH AND POOR, FREE AND BOND, TO  
RECEIVE A MARK IN THEIR RIGHT HAND, OR IN  
THEIR FOREHEADS; AND  
THAT NO MAN MIGHT BUY OR SELL, SAVE HE  
THAT HAD THE MARK, OR THE NAME OF THE  
BEAST, OR THE NUMBER OF HIS NAME.  
HERE IS WISDOM. LET HIM THAT HAS  
UNDERSTANDING COUNT THE NUMBER OF THE  
BEAST; FOR IT IS THE NUMBER OF A MAN; AND  
HIS NUMBER IS SIX HUNDRED THREESCORE AND  
SIX. REV. 13. 16-18.

AND THE THIRD ANGEL FOLLOWED  
THEM, SAYING WITH A LOUD VOICE, IF  
ANY MAN WORSHIP THE BEAST AND  
HIS IMAGE, AND RECEIVE HIS MARK IN  
HIS FOREHEAD, OR IN HIS HAND. THE  
SAME SHALL DRINK OF THE WINE OF  
THE WRATH OF GOD, WHICH IS POURED  
OUT WITHOUT MIXTURE INTO THE CUP  
OF HIS INDIGNATION; AND HE SHALL  
BE TORMENTED WITH FIRE AND  
BRIMSTONE IN THE PRESENCE OF THE  
HOLY ANGELS, AND IN THE PRESENCE  
OF THE LAMB; AND THE SMOKE OF  
THEIR TORMENT ASCENDETH UP FOR  
EVER AND EVER; AND THEY HAVE NO  
REST DAY NOR NIGHT, WHO WORSHIP  
THE BEAST AND HIS IMAGE, AND  
WHOSOEVER RECEIVETH THE MARK OF  
HIS NAME. REV. 14. 9-11.



demandez cette étoile



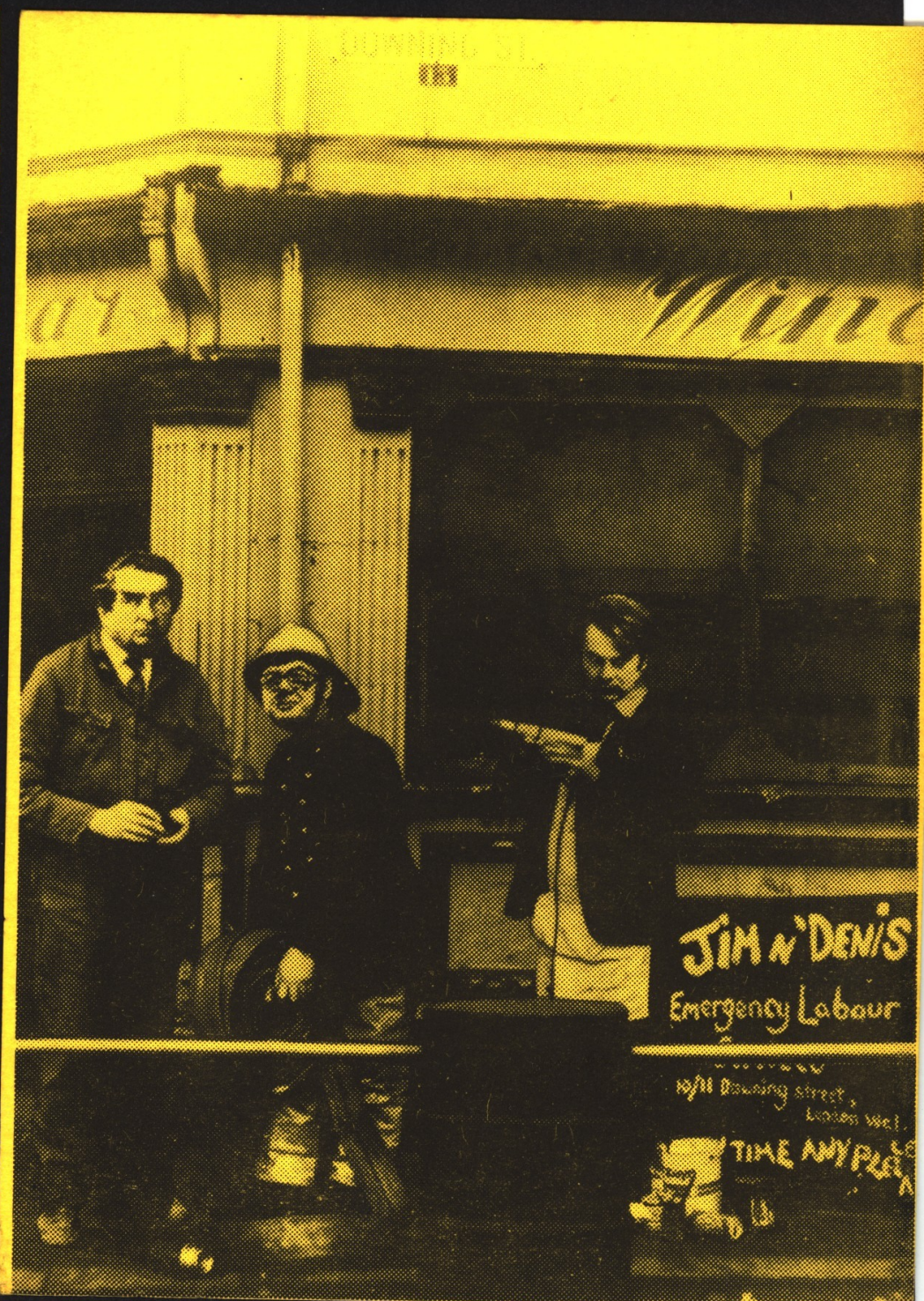
120 rue saint denis 75002 paris



**whoever you vote for the  
government always gets in**









**there's no  
government  
like no  
government**



**Anarchists  
Warning:**

**Governments  
can seriously  
Damage  
your Health**

**Election Day:  
Tweedledum  
or  
Tweedledee**



SHOPLIFT NOW FOR XMAS



**DON'T VOTE —  
IT ONLY  
ENCOURAGES  
THEM**







In the build up to the 18th June mass protest against G8, and the increasing stranglehold of global corporations, an assembly is being held to discuss ideas and action

for  
effective opposition  
to the global economy

for  
a declaration of autonomy.

**GLASGOW**  
**Sat 3/Sun 4th April**

Write for more details  
counter Information (Autonomy)  
c/o 28 King Street, Glasgow G1 5PQ

front: adbusters



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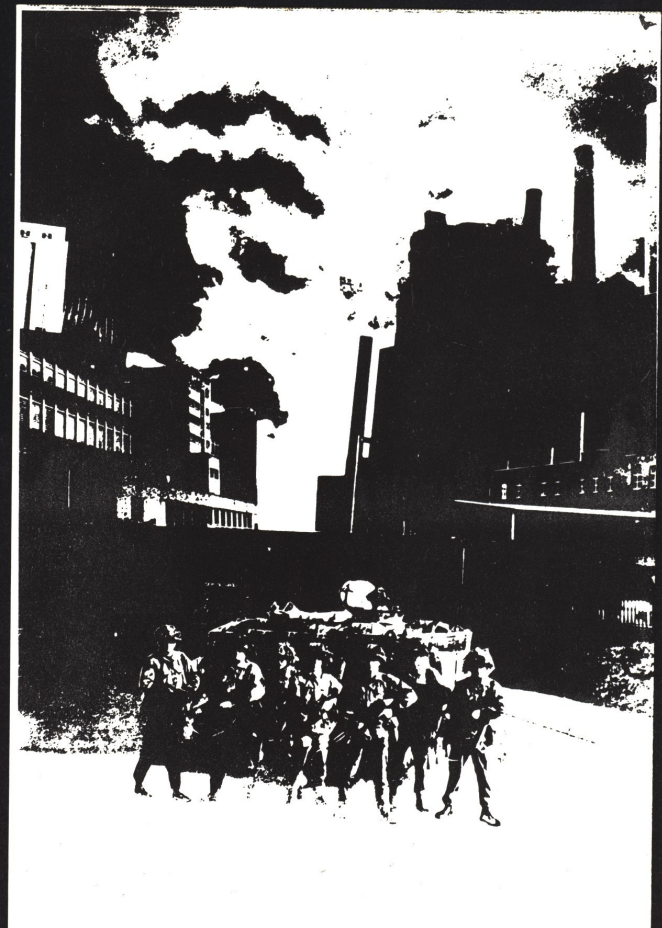
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front: adbusters





**A** **TREASON!**  
presents  
**Day against  
Racism**

with

**BHANGRA SHER PUNJAB**

**SKA CAPONE & THE  
BULLETS**

**CEILIDH BAND CLACHIES**

**DJ's RICHIE • STEWART**  
DUBWARE OUT OF ORDER DEXTERITY MANCHESTER

**KINNING PARK COMPLEX**

**Sat 13 December**

**2pm to 10pm** (Bands from 5)

**Cornwall St at Kinning Park Underground**



**Videos ★ Creche ★ Food**

All proceeds to Hillingdon Hospital Strikers

**TREASON AT HOGMANAY**

Come to the Anti-Racist Day  
for more details

**NEXT SOLIDARITY MEETING**

KINNING PARK CENTRE  
Monday 12th January at 7.30pm  
Come along!

**MAILING LIST IS BEING REVISED**

To ensure you get the next mail out  
please write to us at

Box A, Fahrenheit 451,  
Virginia Galleries  
Virginia Street  
Glasgow G1



NAZIR MALIK

Nazir Malik, a maths teacher in Lanark Division and an EIS member since 1975, has been pursuing a case of racial discrimination, harassment and victimization for nearly three years with EIS support.

In October 1991, Strathclyde Education (Appeals) Sub-Committee found that Nazir had been the victim of racial discrimination and harassment in his school. However, a year later, Strathclyde Region has yet to make a satisfactory offer of settlement for the racial abuse he has suffered over more than sixteen years.

Nazir's case is now before an Industrial Tribunal in Glasgow, with the legal support of the EIS, as approved by Law & Tenure Committee (6 March 1992), and with the backing of the Commission for Racial Equality.

The original grievance arose because Nazir's teaching timetable was heavily weighted year after year with low ability classes. Nazir and another black teacher in the maths department exclusively taught low-ability classes throughout their careers at the school. As a consequence of this prejudicial timetabling, there came to be a widely held view among pupils that Nazir was a poor teacher. This low esteem by pupils, and some maths colleagues, contributed to increasing racial abuse from pupils.

The EIS is arguing that Nazir's Principal Teacher failed to support him against racist abuse from pupils. While the Maths Principal and the Head Teacher maintain that Nazir was an ineffective teacher who was the cause of his own racial abuse by pupils, the facts are that Nazir Malik was never given any oral or written warnings about his teaching, or any other aspect of his professional conduct.

The Nazir Malik Support Group find the institutional racism that pervades Strathclyde Region's defence in this case profoundly troubling.

For the past eight months, since March, Nazir has been without salary. Furthermore, his health has been adversely affected by the racial discrimination he has suffered and by the time it is taking to achieve a just settlement. Nazir and his family are now living on state benefit and the contributions of his friends in the Nazir Malik Support Group.

Lanarkshire Association, Dumbartonshire Association and Ayrshire Association have contributed substantially to the Nazir Malik Support Group for the past six months.

Nevertheless, with winter coming on, Nazir is in a serious financial situation where he is incurring debts which are causing him great anxiety. Please make a generous contribution to--

NAZIR MALIK SUPPORT GROUP  
23 CADZOW STREET  
MOTHERWELL ML1 3DN



# **FIGHTING FASCISTS**



## **AN OLD WORKING CLASS TRADITION**

**GLASGOW  
ANARCHISTS**

*For A Socialism That Liberates*  
**Write to: P.O. Box 1008, Glasgow G42 8AA**



# ***Never Trust A Nazi***

---

Welcome to the annual Scottish March Against Racism and Fascism. Don't be put off by what appears to be the usual bunch of looney lefties, students and rent-a-mob protestors marching round in circles. Racism and fascism is something that concerns all working-class people.

## ***BNP - Worse than the Tories***

Because the BNP has some working-class members they like to pretend they've got something to offer working class people. But their economic policies are even worse than the Tories. The Nazi party has always been the Bosses party and always will be. Blaming immigrants for our problems is a total distraction to keep us from attacking the real enemies of ordinary people: the rich and powerful and their lackeys in Parliament. The BNP want a Nazi dictatorship with the working-class having no control.

Asians today? Who next?

In Scotland they might be trying to turn us against our Asian neighbours, but if they ever got any power we'd all come under their boot. You'd have to forget about going on strike to gain better wages or conditions at work for a start. The BNP say it would be in the national interest, but it's really only in the interest of the nation's bosses.

## ***Divide and Rule Britannia***

While we're too busy slagging people in the same boat as us just because they've got a different colour of skin, the government can do what it wishes. Adding VAT on fuel bills is a licence to kill more pensioners next winter.

Most people in Scotland or anywhere else for that matter are descended from immigrants who have all added something to our society. In particular, Scotland has lots of 1st, 2nd and 3rd generation Irish. Despite what the BNP and other racists claim about the country being flooded by foreigners, more people leave the country each year than come in. Like the people who leave here, the people who came simply want a better life for themselves and their families. There's nothing wrong with that. There's enough wealth produced for a fair share for everyone. However, because there's enough rich greedy bastards more than willing to take more than their fair share, the rest of us at the bottom of the pile, both black and white, have to go without. It's time we got our fair share back!

*We believe in confronting fascism and racism by any means necessary, physically and politically on the streets. If you want to tackle the real enemies of ordinary people contact us at the address overleaf. Remember, the working-class has no country.*

# FIGHTING EDINBURGH TALK

ISSUE 4 - AUTUMN/WINTER '93



## SMASH 'EM

AFA - THE VOICE OF MILITANT ANTI-FASCISM  
PO BOX 421, EDINBURGH, EH11 1QD

# BNP ELECTION WIN

The victory of the British National Party (BNP) in the Millwall ward of Tower Hamlets on the 18th of September sent squeals of horror through the mainstream and liberal left press. Accusations flew left, right and centre, inquiries were called for and yellow lollypops were waved.

However, this result should have come as no surprise to anyone, least of all those claiming to be anti-fascist. The BNP have been attempting to build a solid base of support in the East End of London for a number of years now and, not surprisingly, the area has the greatest number of race attacks in Britain. This has been accompanied by organised attacks on left wing paper sellers as the BNP attempt to drive any focus for opposition out of what they see as "their territory".

A week before the election a group of white racists viciously attacked 17 year old Asian, Quaddus Ali. The following day anti-nazi protestors and young Asians demonstrating against the attack outside the hospital where Quaddus Ali lay in a coma, fought (and beat) the police when they sent snatch squads into the demo and attempted to make arrests. Local Asians obviously know who the real enemy is so why don't many local whites?

The BNP based their election campaign around the issue of the poor housing in the area, taking the blame away from the yuppie property developers who are destroying the East End and putting the blame on local Asian families. With two mainstream parties offering the people of the area bugger all, pandering to and indeed fueling racist sentiments, and all trying to appear respectabler-than-thou, for many the BNP were the only party offering what appeared to be a radical solution to the area's problems. In the end the BNP got 34% of the vote beating Labour by only seven votes.

How could a solidly working class area (and remember the East End of London has a proud history of fighting fascism) apparently fall into the hands of fascists so easily? The fault lies squarely at the door of the Left. The British working class has, over the last fifteen years, been subject to the most vicious attacks from the bosses and government since the thirties. The response from the leaders of the 'official' Labour and Trade Union movement to all this has been either to roll over and be walked all over or even to support the Tory attacks 'in the nation's interests'.

Meanwhile the so-called 'Revolutionary Left' has been flogging papers to middle class students and demanding that working class people vote for the Labour Party, a party that in

councils has been carrying out all the Tory's attacks on essential services with a gusto. It is no surprise that to ordinary people the 'Socialist alternative' is an irrelevant joke.

This criminal capitulation by the Left has provided the fascists with ideal opportunities to build support amongst young, white, working people and to twist their anger away from the real enemy - the government and police, and against the people they should be fighting along side, their black and Asian neighbours.

As the fascists have grown in numbers and confidence the Left has turned a blind eye to their activities. Until a year and half ago the SWP and their ilk were claiming "the nazis aren't a problem!". Tell that to the tens of thousands of people attacked by racists each year, in fact tell that to the lefty paper sellers attacked by organised nazi gangs. The cynical posturing in the last year by the ANL and ARA has provided no solution whatsoever to the growing problem of fascism, cross-class alliances, petitions and lollypop waving does

nothing - the only solution to fascist violence is ideological and physical confrontation.

We must learn the lessons of our past, if not we will be repeating fatal mistakes. In the fight against fascism in London's East End in the 1930s the Labour party and even the TUC told their members not to participate in the demonstration against Mosley's Black Shirts in Cable Street for fear of giving fascism the oxygen of publicity. Thousands of rank and file trade unionists and Labour Party members disobeyed their leaders and joined with East Enders in giving the nazis (and the police) a total hiding in the historic battle of Cable Street.

The beating given to BNP paper sellers the Sunday after the election shows the way forward. AFA has been attacking fascists wherever they raise their ugly heads for the last seven years and we will continue to do so until the final victory is ours.

*Violence in London - see page three*

## C.18 - Are You Terrified Yet?



As we have mentioned before in Fighting Talk, C.18 are operational both nationally and locally - how effective are they at terrorising their opposition? Combat Adolf Hitler (1 and 8 - A and H) to give them their full title were recently exposed in World in Action. C.18 are the self proclaimed fascist paramilitary group designed to terrorise the so-called 'reds' as well as harass, intimidate and attack those who do not fit into their Aryan views. (meaning practically everyone).

Nationally they have managed to terrorise liberal Left/ anti-racist groups, including the Anti Racist Alliance; they assaulted one of their organisers and managed to secure a 'list of members' - why was this man carrying such classified information? C.18 then published this information in their magazine 'Redwatch' resulting in harassment and minor inconvenience to the unlucky members. The ANL have had a few stalls attacked and a few members seriously injured - they were mentioned on World in Action and a reconstruction of them getting a kick in was shown, presumably to make you scared (scared of joining the ANL or scared of C.18 we're not sure).

*Continued on page three.*



# NEO-NAZIS IN PUBLIC POSITIONS

## - An expose of local fascists

Many of our local BNP activists seem to be employed in public positions, surprisingly enough this includes Combat 18 (see page one) members - Anti Fascist Action has given the situation much thought over recent months about what should be done. Other anti-nazi groups know of the situation yet still nothing has been done to remove these people from damaging positions; including a



AFA hopes to change this situation, if we can't remove these people, then at least their work-mates will be informed of their political persuasions and night-time activities. The three beauties on page one are known to have carried out an attack on a local anti-racist, leaving a C.18 sticker at the scene of the incident. The victim was unscathed and alarmed only by the gentleness of the attack. Have C.18 been washing their hands in Fairy Washing Liquid? Joking apart it is a serious situation when those who stand up against fascists are attacked by 'respectable' day workers like Gavin Robertson (see photo far right page one) employed by the Scottish Office. We wonder what his employers would think of Gavin, the office errand boy, if they realised he was running errands for paramilitaries. AFA will soon find out. A campaign is soon to be launched exposing scum like Robertson to the light. For groups and individuals who wish to sponsor and/or be involved in this campaign - contact the PO Box.



hospital worker and Scottish Office employee.

### THE 43 GROUP

"The Untold Story of the Fight Against Fascism" by Morris Beckman. Foreward by Vidal Sassoon. Published by Centreprise Publications. Price £9.50.

With as many as twenty fascist public meetings a week taking place in post war London alone, many young Jewish ex-sevicemen began to look for ways of fighting back. The most militant amongst them came together to form the 43 Group, dedicated to physically opposing and disrupting the fascists wherever they showed their face. Morris Beckman is no "impartial" historian; he was a founder member of the 43 Group, and every page of the lively book reflects the passion of his anti-fascism. The 43 Group had a simple philosophy: they sought to

violently disrupt the fascists by any means necessary. They saw that the fascists were hiding behind a veil of legality, and so the 43 Group did not hesitate to break the law whenever they needed to. There is a wealth of detail in this book and a store of practical lessons for anti-fascists today. They approached the questions of how to defeat the fascists in the most practical manner possible; they decided what had to be done and then did it. Not for them the stupid arguments about "squidism" that the left in the 1990s keep repeating. They new that without squads, the fascists

could not be stopped. There was no idle posturing for the 43 Group. There are strong similarities between this approach and our own, however it would be wrong to ignore the very real differences between the two. The 43 Group did not have a working class perspective, even though so many of their members were working class Jews, indeed the absence of such a perspective is the major political weakness of this book. Nonetheless, this book demands to be read. It shows what can be achieved and it shows what needs to be done. Buy it.

# IN BRIEF

NF AGM Sept 12th. Birmingham New Street Station was the re-direction point for the NF AGM. both AFA and ANL turned up on the day in an attempt to confront the fascists. Unfortunately a fairly heavy police presence made it difficult for the anti-fascists to vent their anger, and on the day only a few fascists were unlucky enough to run into groups of AFA activists. On the whole however it was a not successful day as most of the NF passed through the re-direction point unharmed. AFA were unable to locate the venue for the AGM. On a more positive note it was heartening to see how poor the NF's support was with only around 20 to 30.

**Fascists in Gorgie.** Despite the belief by many that Gorgie is now a "nazi free zone", AFA believes there is much work to be done. The Green Tree, on Gorgie Road, was closed down recently, this pub was used by Hearts casuals and BNP supporters. The management assured the press that the pub would be re-opened as a "family pub" and that the "BNP would not be welcome" there. Much to our surprise they employed Bernie as the doorman. This character is renowned in the area as a well known fascist (his arms are covered in large KKK tattoos) and is constantly harrasing local Asians. AFA is monitoring Gorgie continually for BNP activity. BNP graffiti and stickers are constantly appearing. Residents in the Gorgie area should contact AFA with info on fascist activity.

**David Irving** is set to hold a public meeting in London on October 9th. Irving the Nazi revisionist historian centres his speeches around holocaust denial, he is banned from many European countries for his blatant nazi politics. C.18 provide security in Britain. Details from Searchlight magazine.

**Close down the BNP.** (16th October). The second march this year to shut the nazi HQ down, does nobody own a bulldozer? - Anyway it is set to be big, and with the BNP's recent result in Millwall and the level of racist attacks in the area it's now more important than ever. Will the BNP protect their castle, we don't think so but we can always hope. Buses leave from Edinburgh.

**Le Pig in Edinburgh.** Not much to say, he never showed in the end, however it did show that many groups set aside differences and worked together to achieve a solid No Platform basis ensuring Le Pen would have received a hostile reception.

**St Andrew's Day March.** Scotland's annual anti-racist/fascist march will be held on the 27th Nov in Glasgow. This year, like the years before, will result in an appearance by the BNP who attempt to spoil an otherwise enjoyable day out. If you wish to join with Scottish AFA to ensure the march is enjoyed by all then contact us. Last year they got battered and they will this year too.

**And Finally...** A stall at the Venue by Edinburgh AFA was harrassed to such an extent that the situation nearly exploded into violence. The Anti Nasty League found it amusing in harrassing and attempting to intimidate the AFA members present. It must be pointed out to anti-racists and anti-fascists individually and within organisations that this form of behaviour splits the movement further and gives the BNP/NF etc a good chuckle.

AFA in Edinburgh has tolerated this sort of behaviour by so-called anti-nazis before and no doubt will again. Those involved find it amusing to catcall about our method of fighting fascism. Anti-fascists who are attracted to AFA find that our methods are generally more effective than a membership card, a lollypop and a piggy bank.



## ANOTHER JOURNEY BY TRAIN

When Edinburgh AFA were told of a film featuring Steven Cartwright (BNP lowlife from Glasgow) and other fascists was to be shown at this year's Edinburgh Film Festival, we were interested. Our interest grew when we heard that Cartwright and crew were going to be holding some sort of picket at the cinema. Apparently he had been complaining that the documentary made them look like halfwits - really?!

The film "Another Journey By Train" showed Cartwright and three other European fascists being filmed going to rallies, meetings etc around Europe and finally being taken to Auschwitz-Burkenau where they meet and argue with death camp survivor Kitty Mart.

Naturally on hearing that Cartwright and chums were going to be making a personal appearance at the Filmhouse where the documentary was to be premiered, Edinburgh AFA members and other anti-racists were alerted.

Originally the film was to be shown on the 26th August and AFA organised for that day, but then in an effort to avoid any trouble the Filmhouse switched the date to the 25th August. Despite having little time to reorganise, we managed to gather a sizeable crew of activists in a nearby pub. In addition to this AFA scouts were inside and outside the cinema.

Despite the threats and menacing phone calls the BNP had been making to the film-makers and the Filmhouse all week, they failed to show. Once again proving that when fascists are faced with the prospect of a good kick in at the hands of militant anti-fascists they know it is wise to stay away.

## VIOLENCE IN LONDON

The run up to the recent election in the East End saw clashes between anti-fascists and neo-nazis and the police on a scale rarely seen. The stabbing of Quaddus Ali spurred much of this violence, as police attacked an anti-fascist demonstration with around thirty arrests. Some of those arrested are now being charged with riot under the Public Order Act 1986.



The following weekend the BNP went on the rampage in Brick Lane attacking shops and restaurants, harrasing and assaulting Asians. Anti-fascists were attacked by neo-nazis who were given the run of the streets by the cops. Richard Edmonds was shown on News at Ten chanting, "Rights for whites".

Following these two incidents and many more isolated attacks, the BNP took the election seat. ANL demonstrators were seen on national TV trading insults with the fascists. The victorious BNP then went

## ON THE FOOTBALL FRONT



Fascism has always seen the football terraces as a potential hotspot for racist ideology. Problems within English clubs have on the whole been left to fester with few of the anti-fascist groups receiving funding/support from the board. There have been successes, Leeds football supporters ran the fascists from the ground with a solid campaign involving leafletting, stickering, graffiti and of course physical confrontation. Fascism however has always channelled much energy onto the terraces attempting to turn the white working class youths' team loyalty to 'national pride' and fascism.

In Scotland the situation is similar. Football terraces are no-go zones for the bulk of the liberal left/anti-racist

groups who seem to favour the with comfort of the Students' Union. AFA support



cannot afford to make this mistake. Ibrox (Rangers ground) is held by the BNP, who have regular paper sales

from ICF (Rangers casuals).

There has been no serious attempt to stop this; fans must organise with militant anti-fascists to see the scum off the terraces. Hearts FC is also a potential problem with close connections between BNP/Loyalists and CSF (Hearts casuals). In Edinburgh SCARF was set up in an attempt to halt fascist growth - details of their campaign from PO Box 474 EH11 or our own box.

Celtic also has a strong militant anti-fascist group c/o PO Box 797 Glasgow, G15 1JF.

## C.18 Are You Terrified Yet?

(Continued from Page One)

*Freedom Bookshop and the Morning Star Offices have also been attacked as well as some squats in central London.*

*One thing we would like to say to anti-fascists is that the police will not be there to protect you, as they are to protect fascist events/individuals, so anti-fascist organisations will have to take the steps necessary to secure themselves. AFA has always known this and has never been scared to confront the fascists physically.*

*So where do C.18 stand in Edinburgh, they are here but not that organised. Occasional graffiti, harrasment of shop keepers restaurants etc but very little physical activity. Anti Fascist Action public meetings have never come under attack are they too scared to attack those who they know will defend themselves.*

*What we do know is that some of them work in public positions (see page two) including the photo taken at a local beauty contest (see page one) - the General Election 1992. Gavin Robertson (far right), Douglas Mitchell (left) and David Elders (centre) who is even writing for Furher John Tyndall's 'intellectual' magazine "Spearhead".*

*Anti-fascists know that paramilitary organisations like C.18 who live by the balaclava may also die by it. C.18 stickers in Edinburgh with "C.18 Whatever It Takes" give militant anti-fascists much amusement. If anyone has any information on more of these people send to the PO Box overleaf. Treated confidentially.*

## MERCHANDISE

New design available (on left) Petrol Bomb T-Shirts (£6.00), Hooded tops (£15.00).  
FIGHTING TALK (National AFA mag) £1.00,  
SEARCHLIGHT (International monthly anti-fascist mag) £1.50.  
BLAGGERS ITA - United Colours of... - £6.00  
STICKERS - £5.00 - 200, £3.00 - 75 (various designs)

ALL CHEQUES PAID "EDINBURGH AFA"

## CABLE STREET BEAT

This year's AFA Unity Carnival was in Newcastle, over 10,000 attended. The Shamen, Fundamental, Credit To The Nation, Blaggers ITA, AOS3 and 25th of May made it an enjoyable day for all.

Thanks to Revolution for the recent AFA benefit. The club's next date is on 13th October at the Calton Studios 10 'til late £3 (£2) - first floor Punk, Ska and Reggae - second floor Hip Hop and Jazz Funk.

Thanks also to Static Age. Next dates: Wee Red Bar, Edinburgh College of Art - November 6th Saturday 10 'til 4 and December 4th Saturday 10 'til 4. Punk, Hardcore and Psychedelic.

30th October Halloween. Gin Goblins/Sinister Urge at the Cas Rock Cafe.

Cable Street Beat needs bands, clubs and DJs to do benefits for Anti Fascist Action. Get in touch. We will continue to promote your club/band etc.

## • OBITUARY •

Following the Violent Storm car crash in 1992, when the band were wiped out, Ian Stuart has now cashed his last Giro, in another car crash.

Stuart, Blood and Honour and Skrewdriver mainman met his end on 24th September 1993. He had a string of convictions for racist attacks, his lengthy nazi career is now over. Enjoy Vallhala.

Edinburgh AFA has launched a "Buy your local fascist a car" campaign, donations to the PO Box.



# LOYALISM AND FASCISM

*The Strengthening of Existing Links*



The BNP and C.18 are strengthening their links between themselves and Loyalist organisations including those who engage in so called "ethnic cleansing". The purpose of this article is to highlight some of the mounting evidence showing entwined leadership between the fascist and Loyalist groups.

On a national level Eddy Whicker, former NF parliamentary candidate and now one of the main organisers in C.18 (see page one) was charged with gun-running for the recently outlawed Ulster Defence Association (UDA). Whicker's involvement in fundraising and organising for the UDA in Britain goes back years; after abandoning the NF he turned his attention to the BNP. Whicker along with fellow C.18 organiser Charlie Sargeant used their influence in Loyalist circles to organise against the Bloody Sunday commemoration in London this January.

Over six hundred fascists and Loyalist supporters descended on central London to attack the march. The BNP and NF had been leafletting football grounds and a local army barracks in preparation. The police arrested over three hundred fascists while the march was held up for two hours. Most of the arrested fascists were released later that day enabling them to pick off marchers, while in the evening two Irishmen were stabbed.

In Scotland the links between Loyalists and fascists are visibly stronger. In 1991 when the James Connolly Society (JCS) marched in the Grassmarket they met with fascist opposition. (The photograph above was taken showing BNP activists hand in hand with Loyalists.) In March 1993 the BNP and local Loyalists demonstrated outside a JCS exhibition in the City Chambers. The April edition of the 'British Nationalist' boasted in a front page article how the BNP and Loyalist comrades had, "run the Republicans out of the building". In fact the Day School went ahead without any incident. The collection of fascists and Loyalists outside seemed content enough to sing Rule Britannia.

In June of this year the council banned Republicans from holding a march on advice from Lothian and Borders police; the police feared that violence would break out if the Loyalists/fascists attempted to halt the march. The council bowed down to fascist intimidation and banned the commemoration

Socialist and Republican could not even be remembered in his home town without the threat of fascist/Loyalist violence.

The march went ahead despite the ban. The week before Loyalists were handing out leaflets at Tynecastle (Hearts FC ground) entitled "Remember Warrington - Britons Unite". Interestingly enough this so-called Loyalist leaflet inciting attack on a peaceful commemoration shared the same PO Box as the local BNP - is this conclusive? An Unemployed Workers' Centre was used by those who attended the march as a meeting place, the next day a C.18 sticker appeared on the door with "Whatever It Takes" printed on it.

On June the 19th the Independent Orange Order marched along Princes Street. The Independents were expelled from the mainstream Lodge for supporting UVF/UFF prisoners, in other words expelled for supporting "ethnic cleansing" in Ulster. This year was the second consecutive year that saw counter demonstrating by anti-fascists, including AFA and ANL. Anti-fascists were outraged at the council allowing UVF paramilitaries to walk hand in hand with the local BNP. Needless to say anti-fascists were arrested, donations payable "Edinburgh AFA".

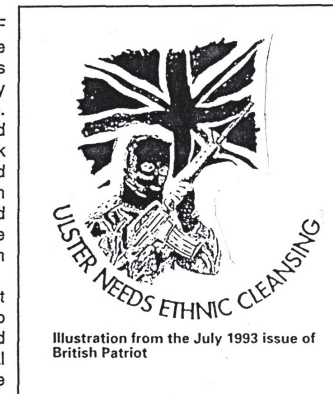


Illustration from the July 1993 issue of British Patriot

of Connolly's birth in Edinburgh 125 years ago. Connolly fought for worker's rights and led the Dublin uprising in 1916, Connolly the

## JOIN AFA

In the fight against fascism in Britain, Anti Fascist Action has a record that is second to none. Our unique combination of physical confrontation and ideological struggle has produced results time and time again.

We say no platform for the fascists - no meetings, no marches, no paper sales, no leafletting - and we mean it, as the fascists know only too well. Our aim is to cause maximum disruption to fascist activities.

But that doesn't mean that AFA only needs streetfighters. Far from it. Everyone has a role to play in AFA, whether they feel confident in physical confrontations or not.

None of our successes in physically confronting the fascists would have been possible without the contribution of non-combatants. From legal observers to scouts, from leafleters to people who can write article or speak at meetings, AFA needs people with a whole range of skills if it is to continue to succeed.

There's a lot to do, so don't wait around. Join today.

Annual Subscription Rate - £5/£3 (Unwaged) Cheques payable: "Edinburgh AFA" - You will receive a regular copy of Edinburgh Fighting Talk and details of our activities.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

TEL No: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT: PO Box 421  
Edinburgh EH11 1QD

## THE COURT SITUATION

When Astrid was arrested (September 15), police and officials from the FDR arrived in England within the week. Under the extradition treaty with the German Government it was understood that the FDR had 4 weeks to process its case for her extradition. Since then it has been a story of promises, prevarications, and postponements from Graupner, the lawyer representing them. The first excuse offered was the voluminous amount of material from her Frankfurt trial that had to be translated. On October 24, when the first application for bail was made, another two charges were introduced- both bank robbery. However, the series of deadlines promised for the evidence against Astrid to be submitted to her lawyers, have been most clearly abused in the weeks following the magistrate's refusal of bail.

Graupner, in his now weekly appearances in court, started with gross misinformation about the timing of Astrid's disappearance from the FDR, continued with his personal fantasies of Latin American guerrilla groups waiting to receive her; subsequently has interrupted both the defence lawyer and the magistrate when questioned on his Government's failure to meet deadlines. Anyone else showing this lack of respect for the court would have been stopped. (21.11.78) This same day brought the sum of 5 extra charges on top of the original one, so now the FDR has 6 charges against Astrid. The magistrate, Evelyn Russell was visibly irritated by his bad manners; he also took the point that a situation where extra charges could be added indefinitely, was unacceptable! He said that the constant delays should be seen as both legally difficult for the defence and stressful for Astrid. So a final.. final.. deadline was made for the 28.11.78. This week saw a different magistrate (do they rotate), who didn't seem at all interested in the history, and who accepted a deferral again! until this week. 5.12.78. It seems that the legal apparatus here hasn't exactly stood up to this stressful situation, which is now becoming more of a waiting game as the weeks go by. Any trial will now clearly be after Christmas.

## BRITTON

Astrid, who from her detention has been created a top-terrorist prisoner, is held, as a Category A prisoner in Brixton, a men's prison. Originally with two other women, Iris Mills and Khaloud Muarbi, a young Lebanese woman, she is now with only Khaloud, since Iris got bail. This means a real isolation, as they are both cut off from association with the male prisoners, and are continuously heavily guarded. We gave more detail in a press statement produced for the picket of Brixton prison, demanding the transferral of women to Holloway, a women's prison in N. London. (21.11.78) In this statement we've used parts of Astrid's letters to describe conditions. "It is so fucking freezing in here

" After 4.30 when the door's close I feel mostly completely empty from the daily/deadly routine. I can't do much during the day, this morning they went through all my stuff again, page for page, letter for letter, I just felt I don't want to have anything any more, just felt like throwing the whole lot after them. This moving and stripsearching is utterly unbearable. It really freaked me out today. Khaloud is now looking by all afternoon if I don't do



anything with her. She doesn't go on exercise, she doesn't get visits. So she is up here all day, I tell you it's hard to deal all the time with another person's pain and despair, particularly if she doesn't get anything in nothing changes, not even for an hour. I now decided to do each day and hour English or Arabic and an hour math with her.

Yesterday I had a row about the people up here reading your letters before giving them to me two hours later. When the mail comes up here it's already opened and read and searched and photocopied and God knows what, so they fucking sitting there, virtually in front of me and doing it again. I am also utterly fed up about the fact that every fortnight some other woman wants to take charge of my life, and here I go like from scratch battling about every book, apple or photo I have or not have. This is what my days are about. Of course they take you serious up here, in Germany they just put you in a cell and forget about you, here they constantly create the environment for you, the terrorist imprisoned.

16.11.78

I like to transfer to Holloway prison, there I could be with many other prisoners, I could also work, what I want to. I feel like a walking, talking sex magazine in Brixton. On my way to the visits I pass several censors on post before or behind locked gates, always with an open sex magazine in front of them. They look up from the pages onto me, get up, lock/open and sit down again to their readings. On the way back to the same procedure. On exercise I get called all sorts of things, men call my name and sometimes if I say yes they give me one. Honestly, if I write what I get to here, what I'm made to be subject-  
of, this letter would not pass.

We are not Category A prisoners, we are "special category with Category A" - a statement from a prison official. I wonder if this could be officially explained, I wonder if this could be officially explained where in fact the dangers to society of my/her existence are manifest (to be detained in Brixton). It is so important internally and externally to constantly question this.

20.11.78

## FREEDOM FOR ASTRID PROLL

### Who is Astrid Proll?

Astrid Proll came to London from West Germany four years ago. She was known among her friends and co-workers as a sincere and committed woman. In her work as a gardener in Hackney, as a fitter's mate in Lesney's East London factory and as a teacher of mechanics to young, unemployed people, she established a reputation for uncompromising resistance to oppression and authoritarianism. Friends enjoyed her support and help in childcare, and her personal support. Women who attended her classes in car maintenance found her a sympathetic teacher.



### Why did she leave West Germany?

Astrid was arrested in May 1971, in West Germany, as a suspected urban guerilla. Before her trial, she spent three years in prison, two in solitary confinement. In the 'silent' wing of Ossendorf prison, near Cologne, Astrid was tortured by sensory deprivation — the complete absence of normal light, movement or sound — for a total of four months. Ulrike Meinhoff, who spent 231 days there, described it like this:

*'... the feeling that one's spine is drilling into the brain, that one is pissing one's soul away ... the feeling that a whole layer of skin has been torn away.'*

As a result of this treatment Astrid suffered severe circulatory collapse. Her trial in 1974 had to be halted because prison doctors warned that she would die if it continued. Released to a clinic, she made the decision to get to England.

### Why are we fighting her extradition?

If tried and convicted in West Germany, Astrid could well receive a heavy and vindictive sentence, reflecting the current political atmosphere and repression there, rather than anything she might have done. When arrested in London, Astrid said:

*'I do not expect to survive if I am returned to Germany.'*



MARK RUSHER (IFL)

NO RETURN TO GERMAN PRISON TORTURE



## NO TO THE SYSTEMATIC VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN WEST GERMANY

West Germany is politically and economically the most powerful state in Europe. To achieve and maintain this position, it has also become a repressive state . . . in many ways reminiscent of the Third Reich.

Since the beginning of this decade, and in particular the last three years (while Astrid has been in London), various security laws have come into force. Presented to the public as a means of curbing 'terrorist' activities, the real purpose of these laws is the control of all democratic and progressive forces.

- any conscious use of democratic rights, any active protest or resistance is legally monitored by security officials.
- these activities are portrayed in the media as 'criminal', and criminal proceedings are taken out against the people involved.
- the rights of lawyers and defendants are severely restricted through the state's interference in political trials.

### SOME REPRESSIVE LAWS AND PRACTICES

**The Contact-Ban Law** — any prisoner, sentenced or in custody, can be barred from all contact with other prisoners and the outside world, and this includes solicitors .

**The Law for the Protection of the Communal Peace** (May, 1976) — while it has always been possible to prosecute those who engage in activities 'hostile to the state', under section 88a, penalties can be incurred by anyone who: 'displays, suggests, presents or otherwise makes accessible . . . matters . . . hostile to the state.'

**Berufsverbot** — a practice of interrogating and then rejecting any applicant for jobs in the public sector — for example, teachers, social workers, hospital workers — on the grounds of their political belief.

**Expulsions from Trades Unions** — it is possible to expel people from trades unions if they belong to left-wing parties. Several hundred people have lost their job in this way.

### NO EXTRADITION FOR ASTRID PROLL

Every TUESDAY at 10 am we picket the remand hearing at Bow St. Magistrates Court, bring your banners.

### RESTORE THE RIGHT TO A FAIR TRIAL IN WEST GERMANY

Every MONDAY at 7.30 pm we meet to discuss the campaign, at 109 Backchurch Lane, E1. Come and join us.

### END THE SYSTEMATIC VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN WEST GERMANY

Cheques to FAP Account No. 50062315 Co-op Bank, Leman St, London E1.

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## TERRORIST MYTH

Astrid Proll has been designated a Category A prisoner which is part of the attempt to present her to the British public as an active member of a terrorist movement and thereby justify her present treatment in prison and her eventual return to West Germany. The Anti-Terrorist Squad's claim that she has "criminal associations" is part of this attempt. The pathetic list of 8 friends and work-mates with petty convictions such as shoplifting and driving offences included 2 names she has never heard of. The A.T.S. later admitted the list was a "red herring" i.e. a smear campaign. Quote from a letter from Astrid: "It's their attempt to sell me back to W. Germany as a terrorist, and so that nobody can come to the conclusion that this can't be right, they give me this treatment".

At Bow Street everyone going into court is searched. Because there are fewer women police officers this process is much slower for women. They are also subjected to a thorough body search as well as having contents of pockets, bags etc. minutely examined. Inside court are armed policemen and the public gallery receives very close scrutiny from these protectors of law and order. All this to reinforce what a threat to national security Astrid Proll must be and hence justify the high-speed police van that delivers her to court, the special security surrounding her during her attendance and, finally, the need for her to be handcuffed to a policewoman throughout the proceedings to prevent her escape. Some chance! The scene in court is very atypical. Astrid is one more case in which the British State parades its special powers given by the PTA.

## CONDITIONS OF IMPRISONMENT

Because of the Category A designation Astrid is kept in Brixton in conditions of virtual isolation i.e. restrictions on association with other prisoners, visiting time and access to her lawyers. She also undergoes arbitrary cell moves and searches every few days and excessive surveillance. Quotes from letters from Astrid: "For sure what you do will always benefit other people in the same situation, like the night of the picket (outside Brixton), when the guys downstairs were saying, look you got a lot of support.... But I do get special treatment, terrorist treatment. I get far harsher surveillance and search than the blokes on Category A."

"The feeling of time in prison is totally different to the outside.... This whole place is so oppressive, it's like sitting in a heavy cloud all day, opening and closing eyes all day and steering through."

## AMENDMENT TO THE EXTRADITION ACT

On 25th Sept - 10 days after Astrid's arrest - the German Ambassador suggested to the British Foreign Office an amendment to the Extradition Act, which was passed whilst Parliament was in recess, with no discussion, questioning or publicity, by an Order-In-Council (delegated legislation made by the Privy Council - the Queen and her advisors - under the authority of Acts). The amendment changed the words "no British subject can be delivered up" to "neither country SHALL BE OBLIGED to extradite its own citizens". THIS AMENDMENT IS NOT RECIPROCAL. In Germany this clause is overruled by the fact that the German constitution says that no German subject may be extradited. This could only be changed by a 2/3rds majority in both Houses of Parliament. Thus, in practice, the amendment affects only British citizens and would appear, because of the timing, to have been passed specifically for this case.

## CITIZENSHIP

Application has been made to the Home Office for British citizenship for Astrid. If a decision is not returned within reasonable time defence will seek a High Court writ of Mandamus. This is a writ which can be used against a minister and "compels the performance of a public duty" i.e. putting pressure on the Home Office to make a decision.



THE CAMPAIGN'S AIMS

Priorities are:

1. To breakdown the terrorist label.
2. To get Astrid and any other women prisoners out of Brixton and into a women's prison.
3. To show why she will not receive fair treatment in West Germany.  
(In the light of previous treatment and given the repressive laws dealing with political activity in W. Germany.)
4. To stop her extradition on legal, moral and political grounds.  
If Astrid is sent back she faces the conditions which nearly killed her.

There is a picket outside Bow Street Magistrates' Court every Tuesday at 10.00am.

There is a lot of literature available giving background on Astrid's case, the relevant legal proceedings and the situation in West Germany. A series of posters have been produced which are suitable for use in exhibitions as well as pamphlets, petitions etc.

Recent activities have been a 'bop' benefit held at Acklam Hall attended by about 300 people; a film benefit where 'Shirin's Wedding' was shown and a torchlight picket outside Brixton prison which was well received by those inside.

The extradition hearing is expected to take place some time in January.

If you want to help or support us in any way write to:

FRIENDS OF ASTRID PROLL  
P.O. BOX 174  
LONDON E1

YOUNG SOCIALISTS and ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE

CONFERENCE JOBS FOR YOUTH  
SHEFFIELD NOV. 28 NOW!

.....

INCREASE OLD AGE PENSIONS

IMMEDIATE RESTORATION OF CUTS IN PUBLIC SPENDING

EXPAND HEALTH SERVICE - SOCIAL SECURITY - EDUCATION

ABOLISH ALL FEE PAYING PRIVILEGES.

YOUTH \*\*\* TRADES UNIONISTS \*\*\* OLD AGE PENSIONERS

\*\*\* U N I T E \*\*\*

10,000 local and government jobs will be wiped out in Scotland as a result of the government cuts. It is expected that the cuts will particularly effect vital services for the young and elderly! There are now 400,000 youth on the dole and reports of proposed cuts in old-age pensions!

Bruce Millan, Labour's Scottish Secretary has said that 'there is no more to negotiate!' But we say that this is not good enough. The Labour government was not put there to slash at workers, youth and OAP whilst cushioning the rich. They have long since departed from policies laid down by the Labour Party conferences!

We are in full support of the demonstrations of public employees in London on Nov. 17 and we invite trade unionists to attend our conference in Sheffield on November 28!

.....

CONFERENCE ..... JOBS FOR YOUTH, NOW! ..... INCREASE OLD AGE PENSIONS ..... SHEFFIELD, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 3 PM

BUSES LEAVE GLASGOW, CLYDE ST. (Opp. Suspension Bridge)

- Cost £6

Delegates or visitors

Write for further details to 'JOBS FOR YOUTH', 286, Clyde St., Glasgow, G.1



**Conference of Trades Unionists and Youth  
Sheffield, November 28th**

*Jobs for Youth  
286 Clyde St  
Glasgow*

Dear Brothers,

The Young Socialists 'Jobs for Youth Now' campaign thanks all trades unionists who supported our lobby of the Trades Union Congress at Brighton on Thursday September 9.

Approximately 1,000 school leavers, students and unemployed youth came from all parts of Britain to discuss with delegates the growing danger of youth unemployment.

The Lobby won a considerable response: delegates, representing many unions, discussed with us and expressed great concern about the numbers of young people out of work.

The other issue prominent in discussions at the TUC was the plight of millions of old age pensioners who are forced to live on a pittance.

We are also concerned at the fact that old people, in the face of roaring inflation, will be lucky to survive this winter.

Not only are we demanding full training facilities and trade union rates of pay for youth, as well as the right of those unemployed to join a trade union, we feel that every pensioner must have an immediate increase, and this should go up continually in line with the rises in the cost of living.

We appeal to the trade union movement to stand by the unemployed youth and the old age pensioners. You have the organised strength of the working class in your hands.

We are holding a conference on Sunday November 28 at 3.00 p.m. at Oval Hall, City Halls, Sheffield to discuss these issues. We are asking your union branch to send a delegation.

Coaches and trains are leaving from all parts of the country. Old age pensioners will travel free and unemployed youth at a reduced rate. Give us your support with a donation to help meet these costs.

Our members are standing by to come to your branch meeting, to speak about the campaign and answer any questions. For further details, please write to the above address.

The outright attacks on the young and the old are attacks on the whole working class. This must be the concern of every trades unionist. Please give us your support, as well as a donation for our campaign.

Yours fraternally,  
*Simon Pirani,*  
National Secretary

-----  
Please send credentials for . . . delegates

NAMES .....

ADDRESS .....

UNION BRANCH .....

I enclose £ : (credentials 25p per delegate) £ . . . . . donation towards

Conference Please send me details of travel arrangements.

Return this form to CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS

21b Old Town,  
London SW4 0JT.



# ALL OUT NOVEMBER 17th

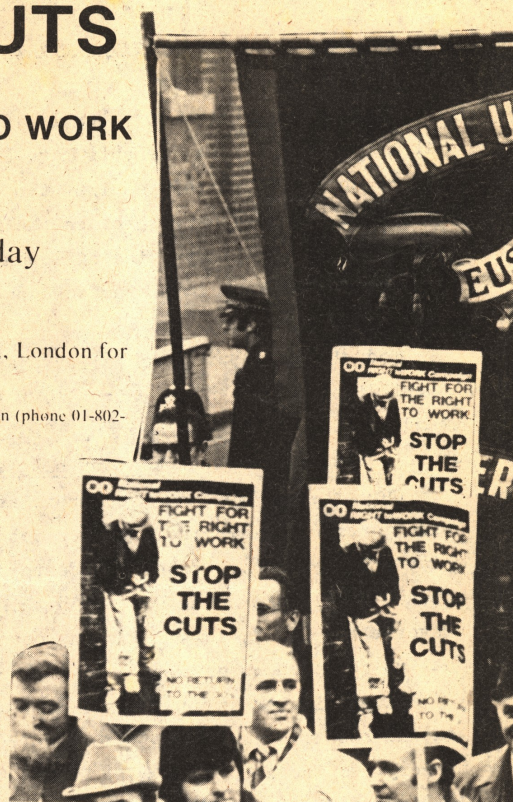
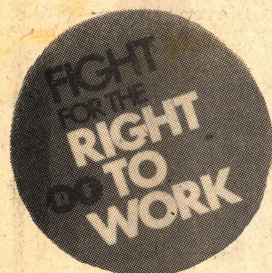
## STOP THE CUTS

FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK

Demonstrate on Wednesday  
November 17th

Assemble 1.30pm, Speakers Corner, Hyde Park, London for  
March on Parliament.

Details of transport to London from Right to Work Campaign (phone 01-802-0978).



Have you waited for hours in a hospital lately? Or tried to get a child into a nursery?

Have you wondered whatever's happened to the buses? Or why you have to queue for hours to get the Council to do anything, or to get a claim in to Social Security?

If you have - then you're a VICTIM OF THE CUTS.

But you don't have to take it lying down.

On Wednesday, November 17th, tens of thousands of hospital workers, civil service clerks, teachers and council workers will be joined by unemployed workers - all on the march in London.

They are marching to defend their jobs - and to defend the social services working people like you have fought for years to win.

You can join their protest.

Make November 17th a real DAY OF ACTION for the whole working class and trade union movement.

STOP WORK WITH THEM,  
SEND A DELEGATION FROM  
YOUR WORK,  
OR JUST TAKE TIME OFF TO  
MARCH WITH THEM.

The bigger the demonstration on November 17th, the more difficult the Labour Government will find it to go ahead with cuts.

If we stop the cuts, there will be more jobs and better living and working conditions for the vast majority of people in the country. If we don't then things will get worse in the next few weeks and months and will stay worse.

The only people who would benefit by allowing the cuts to take place would be the rich. Those who can buy and sell £600,000 houses and buy all the services they need.

By fighting to STOP THE CUTS and FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK you're fighting for a better life for yourself, your family and all working class people.



Published by the National Right to Work Campaign, 265a, Seven Sisters Road, London N.4  
Printed by S.W. Litho, London E2 9DS



XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
 X SUPPORT THE EASTERHOUSE X  
 X NURSERY OCCUPATION. X  
 X STOP THE CUTS ! X  
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Since last Monday, November 1st, supporters of the Easterhouse Right to Work Campaign and local tenants have been occupying the old St. Clare's Primary School in protest against the cuts. The annexe has been lying empty for the last three years, because the Strathclyde Regional Council has refused to honour its promise and open the building as a nursery. There is no nursery on the whole Easterhouse estate, despite the fact that 55,000 people live there.

Today's lobby has been called against the background of the Council's latest plans to cut our services to the bone. 7,000 local authority workers stand to lose their jobs - among them 300 qualified nursery nurses. The Council also plans to sack every single nursery nurse student.

Our struggle to open the annexe as a nursery and take some of the nursery nurses off the dole queues deserves the support of everyone on today's lobby. We don't believe Easterhouse is a special case - we are opposed to all the cuts, but we do think that if the slogan of the lobby, "Reverse the Cuts", is to have any meaning at all, then the direct action that we've taken is one way to do it.

In particular we urge trade union organisations and tenants' associations to send resolutions to the Regional Council demanding that it open the nursery. Copies should be sent to the Easterhouse Nursery Action Group, 7 Edderton Place, Easterhouse.

VISITORS AND DELEGATIONS are always welcome at the Occupation. It's at the corner of Lochdochart Rd and Brunlanrig Ave (a 211 bus from Buchanan St bus station will take you right there).



# 1978 London to Brighton Unemployed March.



**FOOD AND TRANSPORT**  
are provided free for the unemployed, paid for by trade union donations. Each marcher will have to pay a 50p registration fee, and will be expected to bring their own sleeping bag or blankets. Marchers are also advised to bring a suitable bag/holdall, good walking shoes, thick socks, change of clothes, etc. Your local Right to Work Committee will help out. **DOLE BENEFIT** will be paid to marchers as per normal, providing you either book on a holiday form for the duration of the march or sign on in Brighton. The local Right to Work Committee will sort out which is the best for you.

**ENTERTAINMENT:** in the evenings is also provided free for marchers. Together with Rock Against Racism there will be some ten bands playing at our gigs. Reggae, soul, rock and roll, jazz, funk, punk — our music. There will also be films, jazz, funk, punk — our music. There will be culture, culture, culture. Music and laughter is our weapon — not theirs' so.

**FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK...  
ROCK AGAINST RACISM.**

## to September 2nd September 6th

If you want to join us on the march fill in the slip and send off to RTWC 265a, Seven Sisters Road, London N4. We will then put you in touch with your local Right to Work Committee for details about transport, etc.

Name (Block Capitals please).....  
Address (Block Capitals Please).....

Age .....

50p registration fee enclosed



# WE AIN'T GONNA FIGHT FOR THE

With a General Election just round the corner the politicians are taking the promises out of the cupboard. But there's no promised land for us on the dole.

There's 1½ million of us on the dole — and that doesn't include unregistered unemployed, especially women. The real figure is over two million. It's the worst since the Thirties. And if we don't fight it's going to get worse.

## BLAME BOSSES NOT THE BLACKS.

Unemployment is the sewer that breeds racism. Maggie Thatcher, Enoch Powell and the Nazi NF would have us believe that unemployment is caused by black people. It's a lie.

It's Leyland, Singers and the like who are sacking workers — not the blacks. It's

the Government running down the nationalised industries like Steel and Shipbuilding — not black people. And it's the slashing of hospitals and social services that's causing the hardship.

## NO DOLE QUEUES! NO NAZIS!

## HOW TO FIGHT BACK.

The Government and the TUC have sold us out. The Tories threaten us with worse still. Our only chance is a rank and file fightback that unites unemployed and employed. Factory closures can be fought with occupations and solidarity blacking.

The 35-hour-week with no loss of pay would immediately create hundreds of thousands of new jobs. A reversal of the public spending cuts would stop

hospital closures and the rundown of our social services. But such things will have to be fought for. They will not come from politicians' promises.

The trade union movement has the power to fight. They can threaten the bosses' production and profits — and that's the only language the bosses and the government will listen to.

But that doesn't mean we can sit back and wait for other people to fight for us. We can stir up the people who do have the power to take action. That's why we'll be marching from London to Brighton where the Trades Union Congress is meeting.

If you're angry don't stay home and fret. Join us! March with people from all over the country at the beginning of September on what could be the biggest unemployed march ever.

# MARCH FOR THE



# RIGHT TO WORK!

# TAKE IT NO MORE! RIGHT TO WORK!



GLASGOW RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN  
SEPTEMBER UNEMPLOYED MARCH  
INFORMATION FOR THOSE INTERESTED  
IN THE MARCH

Glasgow Right to Work Campaign  
Secretary, Vince Behan  
57 Brier Drive Clydebank

Dear

I'm writing to you on behalf of the local Right to Work Campaign because I understand you are interested in the forthcoming March against unemployment, that we are organising in September.

Hopefully this letter will explain to you what the March is about, and let you know the details of the March itself.

WHAT IS THE RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN ?

The RTWC is a national body made up of unemployed school leavers, unemployed workers and employed trade unionists who want to save and create more jobs, and who want to end unemployment. The Campaign supports every group of workers who are fighting against sackings and redundancies and tries to help unemployed workers to organise to fight for their rights.

It is the one national body that has consistently fought against rising unemployment. The march to the Trades Union Congress in September will be the 5th major march we have organised since the Campaign was set up in 1975. Like the others, the march will be a militant protest, which aims to win support from the unemployed and to tell the trade union leaders, loud and clear, that sackings and redundancies have to be fought and that more jobs have to be created through the action of employed trade unionists.

Our actions both through our national marches and protests, and our local activities have shown that the unemployed can organise to fight back, and these actions have won the support of thousands of rank and file trade unionists up and down the country. It is through this support and goodwill that we are able to organise and fund our activities. We have had countless donations and collections from Trade Union bodies who support the Campaign.

DETAILS OF THE SEPTEMBER MARCH

The march at the beginning of September looks like being our biggest ever. The National March starts in London on the 2nd September and goes to Brighton (a distance of about 50 miles). The march itself lasts about 3 days. We will then spend 2 days in Brighton where the TUC meets and we will be lobbying the trade union delegates for their support in the fight against unemployment.

The West of Scotland contingent of the March starts a day earlier. It will leave Clydebank Burroo at 10am on Friday 1st September. (Everyone in the Glasgow area who is going on the March should be at Clydebank Burroo for that time.) We'll be marching into Glasgow, passing and stopping at local factories fighting redundancies and unemployment. We'll be asking the workers at these factories for support for our Campaign and some of them have already agreed to help us. We'll arrive in Glasgow City Centre on Friday afternoon and at 2pm the local marchers will board coaches in George Square to take them to London. They will then join the start of the National March in London the next day.

When the march and the 2 day events in Brighton are over coaches will collect the marchers on the 6th September in Brighton and bring them back to Glasgow.

WHAT ABOUT FOOD AND TRANSPORT ?

These are provided free for the unemployed, paid for by donations from trade unions and from fund raising we will be doing before the March. If you want to help with fund raising contact us at the address or phone number at the end of this letter. Each marcher will have to pay a 50p registration fee, and will be expected to bring their own sleeping bag or blankets. Marchers will also need a bag or a holdall, reasonably good walking shoes, thick socks, change of clothes etc. If you have difficulty getting any of these things contact us right away and we'll help you out.

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WHAT ABOUT DOLE MONEY ?

This will be payed to marchers as per normal, providing you either book on a holiday form for the duration of the march or sign on in Brighton. The local Right to Work Committee will help you sort out which is the best method for you.

ENTERTAINMENT

In the evenings, entertainment is provided FREE for marchers. Together with Rock against Racism there will be some 10 bands playing at our gigs. Reggae, Soul, Punk and Rock and Roll. There will be films and theatre groups.

If you have decided to go on the march or want further details about any of the points raised in this letter then either write to me at the above address or phone 041 221 3426.

Before the march we are organising collections, distributing leaflets and putting up posters to advertise the march. We need all the help we can get and if during the day you are available to help us then contact Dave or Iain at 041 221 3426.

IF YOU'RE ANGRY THEN DON'T SIT AT HOME JOIN US ! MARCH WITH PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTRY AT THE BEGINNING OF SEPTEMBER ON WHAT COULD BE THE BIGGEST EVER UNEMPLOYED MARCH

P.S. I've enclosed a collection sheet for the march. If you could use it among friends and relations to raise support for the march and then send any cash to us, it would be very helpful.

PLEASE TAKE A NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING MEETING

A meeting for all those going on the march, being held on MONDAY 28th AUGUST, at 2pm in the Afternoon in the Socialist Worker Bookshop Top Floor 64 QUEEN ST GLASGOW. Access to the bookshop is gained by the close next to the Gratispool Shop in QUEEN ST...Take the lift to the top floor.

At the meeting, members of the Right to Work Campaign who have been on previous marches will explain the details of the march and answer any questions. The final registration will take place at this meeting-so if you are going on the march, then try to be at this meeting.

All The Best,

Vincent Behan  
Iain Ferguson  
For the Right to Work Campaign

# Order Form

£      p.

## BADGES

- Green logo on black    25p      \_\_\_\_\_
- Black logo on red, gold and green    25p      \_\_\_\_\_
- *Reefer Madness* brown, white and yellow    25p      \_\_\_\_\_
- *Legalise It* red, yellow and green    25p      \_\_\_\_\_

## T-SHIRTS

- Green logo on short-sleeved shirt on black or white. Sizes small, medium, large, extra large.  
Size \_\_\_\_\_ Colour \_\_\_\_\_ £3.00      \_\_\_\_\_

## POSTERS

- 1967 *Times* advertisement, a reprint of the famous full page ad signed by famous supporters    50p      \_\_\_\_\_
- Wild Indian Hemp Poster in full colour, A2 size £1.00      \_\_\_\_\_

## CARDS

- Package of 5 Christmas cards and envelopes, letterpress printed with black illustration on white glossy card    £1.00      \_\_\_\_\_

## STICKERS

- 4" vinyl stickers, green logo on black    15p      \_\_\_\_\_
- 2" paper stickers, red, gold and green    10p      \_\_\_\_\_
- 1 1/4" paper stickers, green and white logo on red    3 for 10p      \_\_\_\_\_

## BALLOONS

- In various colours with logo printed black    5p each      \_\_\_\_\_

## PUBLICATIONS

- *The Cannabis Cover Up*. A 32-page booklet looking at the history of cannabis prohibition and the operation of the law today.  
ISBN 0 906497 00 0    65p      \_\_\_\_\_
- *Trash Rehashed*. The Campaign's reply to the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs.  
ISBN 0 906497 01 9. 46pp.    95p      \_\_\_\_\_
- Now how about a donation?      \_\_\_\_\_

## POSTAGE

Please include postage with all orders as follows:

- Badges, stickers and balloons    20p      \_\_\_\_\_
- T-shirts, posters, booklets, cards    30p      \_\_\_\_\_



Please send me the following items listed above.  
I enclose a cheque/PO for £      \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

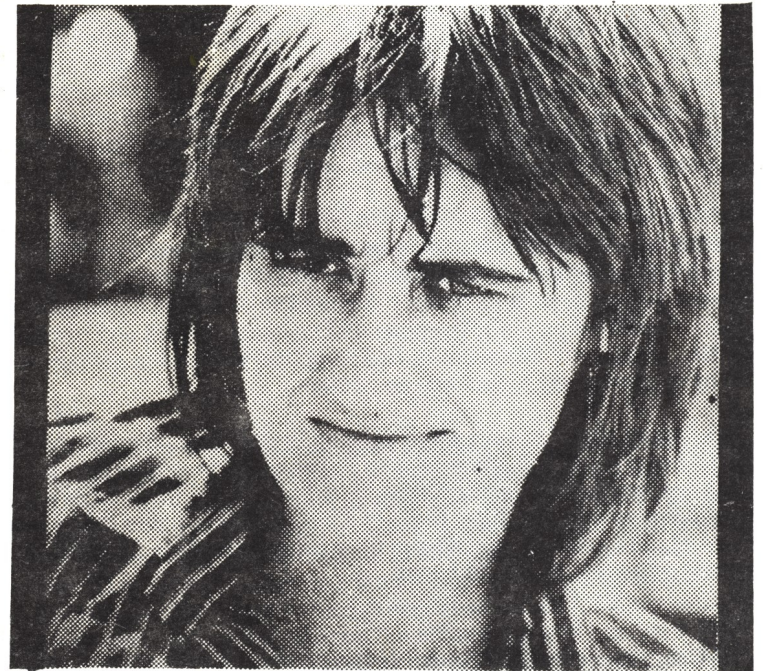
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# ASTRID PROLL

The case against her extradition



Produced by "Friends of Astrid Proll"

#### Friends of Astrid Proll

Astrid Proll was arrested on September 15th, 1978, and is now in a high-security wing of Brixton Prison awaiting extradition hearings. She has not been charged with any offence under British law. This pamphlet describes her life in England and presents the case against her extradition to West Germany.

"Friends of Astrid Proll" are a group concerned with the life and liberty of a dearly loved friend, as well as with the wider issues of human and civil rights that her case raises. We do not support the tactics of the "Baader-Meinhof" or any other similar group. We are concerned with a woman who has shown by all her actions and words that she is not a "terrorist", who wishes to put the past behind her and live a different life. We want her to have that chance.

## Why she fled from Germany

Astrid Proll was brought up in Kassel, Germany, the daughter of an architect. After leaving school she went to Art College in Berlin to study photography. She became involved in left-wing politics through the 1968 Students Movement, the activity against the Vietnam war, and through working with young people from approved schools in Frankfurt. It was during this period in Berlin that she met other members of the subsequent Baader-Meinhof group.

#### Her imprisonment

Astrid was arrested in Hamburg in May 1971. She was then held for 2½ years until her trial eventually started in September 1973, in Frankfurt. During this time she was subjected to two periods of sensory deprivation and social isolation in the "silent wing" of Koln-Ossendorf prison (November 1971-January 1972 and April 1972-June 1972, a total of 4½ months). When not in this wing, she was held in solitary confinement, for a total of two years—all before any conviction.

The "silent wing" she describes as being buried alive. She was the only prisoner in the wing (it had 6 cells) and absolutely no sound could penetrate into her cell. Her only human contact was the warders who brought her food three times a day. The only daylight was what could filter through a tightly-meshed wire over a window too high to see out of. The cell and its contents were painted in white oil paint, and the bare neon light was often left on for 24 hours.

Ulrike Meinhoff, who received similar treatment to Astrid, describes it thus:

"It feels as if my head is exploding, the feeling that my scalp will burst, will be torn off . . . it feels as if I am constantly under electric currents, under remote control . . . the feeling of burning inside . . . it's not possible to know if the shivering is from heat or



cold . . . roaring in the ears . . . the feeling that time and space are not two separate things any more . . . the feeling is of being in a vacuum, like being embedded in lead."

Despite this torture and the subsequent attempts to "re-educate" her in the psychiatric wing of the prison, Astrid never once talked to the interrogating police or made any "confession". By the time her trial started, however, she was suffering from extreme low blood pressure and circulatory collapse. She experienced bloodrushes to the head, difficulty in breathing, continual tiredness and could sometimes hardly walk. Dr Schmidt-Voigt, an independent circulation specialist, told the court:

"There is acute danger in two directions. Firstly, through the permanent deficiency of blood supply to the brain, causing an oxygen deficiency . . . leading in the long run to deterioration of thinking ability and intelligence. Secondly, such disturbances act in the same way on the heart muscles and cause nutritional disturbances of the heart muscle cells. This can become permanent and cause irreparable damage. Finally a complete circulatory collapse causes rhythm disturbances and these could be fatal."

He recommended that Astrid was unfit to stand trial, and that only treatment outside prison could avert the danger to her life. The trial was halted, and she was released on bail, first to a sanatorium in the Black Forest, and then to live in Frankfurt. Fearing she would not survive her return to prison, she fled to England.

Though she made a slow recovery here, years later she is still suffering from the after-effects of the sensory and social deprivation she was exposed to in prison. Being alone can bring on terrifying feelings and everyday situations can induce panic or the fear of collapse, as her English friends noticed:

"Getting out of the car, and walking, or sitting in a restaurant could produce a panic and anxiety in Anna that I'd never seen in anyone before."

"One day we were shopping in a brightly-lit supermarket. Anna was already getting agitated by the neon-lighting, when we suddenly heard a sonic-bleeping noise. Anna just collapsed on the spot. I had to take her out immediately, she was holding my hand like a little child, and was distressed and shaky for hours."

### The charges against her

At her trial, Astrid was charged with two attempted murders arising out of an incident in Frankfurt in 1971. At the time of writing these are the grounds on which the West German authorities will try to extradite her, though they may also press other charges in connection with bank robbery. In the Frankfurt incident, it is alleged that shots were exchanged when the police recognised and gave chase to two suspects in the street. No one was either hit or hurt. It should be noted that the German police are very ready to claim attempted murder charges. The Chief Attorney remarked in 1967, "If someone is hit with a truncheon by a police officer and disarms the officer and hits him back, they should prepare themselves for a charge of attempted murder." (Source—Verboten 1)

The prosecution and defence in Astrid's trial have never been fully heard since the trial was stopped, but it now appears that the prosecution had great difficulty in providing

evidence. A recent article in "Der Spiegel" (29.9.78) said "... the most severe accusation, that Astrid Proll shot at two plainclothes policemen, couldn't even be proved convincingly at the time because the inquiring authorities were holding back witnesses present at the scene ... they (the plainclothes police) were only allowed to give restricted evidence ... the prosecution curtailed the hearing of witnesses and therefore the possibilities of legal judgement, in an unconstitutional way." There were rumours later that the judges wanted to throw the case out.

## Astrid's life in England

In a letter to a friend from Brixton prison (30.9.78), Astrid writes:

"The main thing I have to fight is being put back into the top-terrorist bracket. The reality surrounding me here just tells me that. I am the top prisoner here, everybody, prisoners and staff are complaining about the tightening up of security. That's what I was fearing most. In Germany it will be even worse because I can be connected to all the old names. During all the last years I have never chosen to give interviews out of the dark, to call upon people: 'Throw away your guns!' because a figure like that is just a paper figure, she or he is big business for the terror market, it doesn't add to her/his perspective, it holds her/him back. Instead I trained on EEC money (in a Skill Centre) and tried to do something differently. *I did it*. People say now: the practice is not enough, I have to open my mouth on what I turned my back on."

### What did she do here?

Astrid came to England partly because she could already speak the language, and partly because here she could lead a different political life, one that did not involve any kind of armed or violent activity. She got married and tried to establish her life here as Anna Puttick. She got work first as a gardener in a park, and then decided to train as a car mechanic. She completed a 6-month Government retraining course—the only woman amongst dozens of men—and then obtained a City & Guilds certificate through studying in evening classes. She then worked for nearly a year as a fitter's mate in a toy factory in Hackney, as a member of AEUW. Many of her friends and workmates have spoken about her life here:

"At work, Anna had to cope with the suspicion, ribaldry and loneliness that comes with being the only woman in a traditionally male job. At Lesney's (the toy factory) some of the men wouldn't work with her because she was a woman, and one of the supervisors was always really down on her. Anna is an inspiration to me, and to other women, in her determination to fight this sex discrimination and not let herself be discouraged."

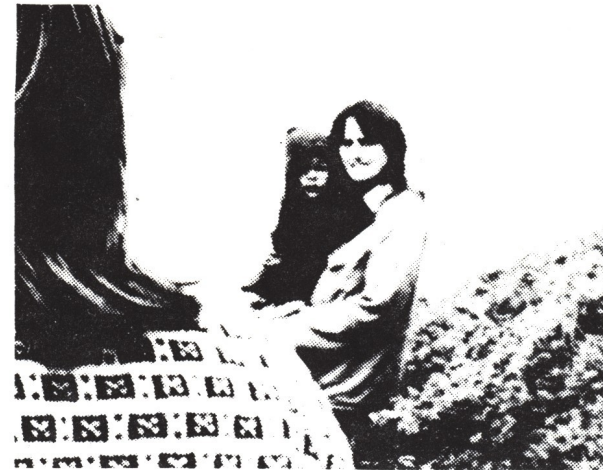
Astrid next worked for ten months, until she was arrested, at the North London Vehicle Workshop, as an instructor on a scheme for training unemployed school leavers:

"She was very good at her job and all the lads liked her—she would enjoy a joke with us all ... Anna is about the last person you would expect to be involved in violence of any kind. On the contrary, she goes out of her way to help people rather than hurt them. Only last Tuesday when a student here failed his examination at a local technical college, she took the trouble to go down to persuade the authorities to let him sit the exams again."



Astrid met many women who through the womens' movement were trying to come out of their isolation as wives and mothers:

"When I met Anna, she was still at the Government training centre and had little spare time, but she'd pop in from next door. The children would be in and out of her house at the weekends, she'd be delighted on the occasions they stayed the night there because she revelled in their company and because it left me free. That was about neighbourliness rather than individuals isolated behind their front doors . . . I saw her being in England as settling down, not into inactivity, on the contrary laying down real roots, putting all her energy into her work: into friendships: into the squatting and local community as a whole. She was acutely aware of what was going on around her, like the Bengali families who had been sold empty houses by racket profiteers, whose children didn't go to school because



their parents didn't speak any English. She told me of student groups she had worked with in Germany, who went into the migrant communities and worked with people, 'the dispossessed ones', in terms of giving them some respect so that they had a chance to be themselves . . . Now I am totally amazed that she could love other people, relate so directly and with so much energy, after the conditions she endured in prison in Germany."

"Anna moved into the house I was living in and gave me and my child enormous support . . . she took a lot of responsibility for the children regarding education, security and welfare. One of my children (Tony) has a very strong relationship with Anna. She gave him so much time and energy when he needed it most, even after a hard day's work."

"As a woman, her influence on me has been her total lack of respect for the usual confusion and powerlessness that women particularly can be prey to. I think it is to her greatest credit that she has never been a comfortable person to be around."

"She would sometimes ask me why I chose to identify with my weakness rather than my strength. She knew very well how it is often easier to remain oppressed and how essential it is not to".

Astrid also ran a car maintenance class for women:

"She was very clear and thorough at explaining how engines worked. She really wanted

other women to learn what she knew. She demystified cars for me—not just the knowledge and practical skill involved, also how to use a spanner right, not being uptight about getting dirty, always finding a way round something if it didn't come right first time. She would just keep going at it.”

Only her closest friends noticed the intense strain she was living under. She faced the pressure of having always to conceal her real identity, which made any situation or any person a possible threat to her, as well as the strain of her shattered health. Add to this all the more normal problems of exile—finding work and friends in a foreign culture, bearing the pain of separation from her family and the friends she was closest to in Germany, with whom she had no contact at all . . . .

‘ I was at first terrified when I saw the stress that was constantly operating on her, but at the same time I was impressed by her beauty and intensity.’

“Sometimes I couldn't believe that she kept going day after day, first at the factory then in the workshop (garage)—jobs that were really demanding. But she did. And she really entered into the world of the kids at the garage—saw what they were up against, appreciated their energy and stropiness.”

For Astrid, training as a car mechanic, and studying for further qualifications in mechanics and welding, was the basis of her new life in England; her friends and workmates want her to continue that life.



## What she faces if she is returned to Germany

Although the charges against Astrid date from seven years ago, and bear no comparison with recent acts of “terrorism”, in Germany she will still be branded as a “top terrorist” and her new life here is likely to be ignored. She will be linked in the public eye with violent crimes with which she has no connection, and in the current atmosphere of fear and reaction in Germany, there is serious concern about how she will be treated if she returns.



### **Trial and prison conditions**

If returned, Astrid is likely to spend another long period on remand before she is brought to trial. There are substantial grounds for believing that she will not receive a fair trial, given the recent interference in the legal rights of defendants. Special courts have been set up to hear "political cases", which are run by carefully selected judges. The prosecution can now compel defendants and witnesses to make statements without a lawyer present and letters between lawyer and client can be intercepted and examined at the prosecution's discretion. Police have raided lawyers' offices and seized defence documents. Defence lawyers have been banned for protesting at the treatment of their clients in prison, and replacement lawyers refused an adjournment to prepare their case.

We fear that, if convicted, Astrid will receive a heavy and vindictive sentence which will reflect the recent escalation of terrorism, and the current political atmosphere in West Germany, rather than anything she is alleged to have done.

She will also be returned to the same inhuman prison conditions which were nearly fatal to her in 1974. Her circulatory condition is still poor and liable to deteriorate rapidly, as has already become apparent during her few weeks in Brixton Prison. In addition, the new 1977 Contact Ban Law allows the German authorities "after the proper assessment" to deny a prisoner any contact with family, friends, or even a lawyer. Prison visits now take place through a thick glass screen so that no touch or natural sound contact is possible.

### **Public support for Astrid will be difficult**

In West Germany today there has been an increasing erosion of civil liberties so that any protest can be termed "anti-constitutional" and people can be prosecuted, for example, for drawing attention to prison conditions. In 1975 two people who distributed leaflets describing the solitary confinement of Baader-Meinhof suspects were sent to prison for six and nine months. Kurt Groenewold, a defence lawyer who attempted to describe his clients' prison conditions, was also brought to trial in a manner that was internationally condemned (by, amongst others, the Haldane Society and the New York Centre for Constitutional Rights).

Members of the public who might be sympathetic to Astrid's case will be inhibited by the fear of losing their own jobs. Under the Berufsverbote (job bans) 1½ million people have been investigated and thousands banned from public service jobs of any kind (including postmen, teachers, train drivers, local government officials) because their "loyalty to the constitution" is in question.

When arrested in London, Astrid said: "I do not expect to survive if I am returned to Germany." Of the early members of the Baader-Meinhof group with whom she is associated, eight have met their death in prison. The others who are now free are living ordinary and peaceful lives; we want Astrid to have that opportunity rather than the threat of illness and death in prison.

"Friends of Astrid Proll" oppose her extradition to West Germany for the following reasons:

- She has spent the last four years in Britain leading a legal and constructive life, and has made many friends who do not want to lose her.
- There are many grounds for believing that she will not receive a fair trial in Germany, given the current operation of the legal system there, as well as events since 1971, in which she has had no part.
- Without being convicted, she has already spent nearly three years in prison, including two years of solitary confinement and four months of sensory deprivation. This experience nearly killed her. We are frightened for her life should she be sent back to Germany.
- Extradition of Astrid Proll would amount to an endorsement by the British Government of the continuing erosion of civil liberties in West Germany.

Astrid Proll will be fighting her extradition by legal means through the courts, and, if necessary, by appeal to the Home Secretary. "Friends of Astrid Proll" wish to publicise her case as widely as possible. We also wish, in the event of her being extradited, to create a campaign of international concern and support for her in Germany. We welcome the broadest possible support.

You can help by: - affiliating to the campaign, either as an individual or as an organisation

- making public statements of support for Astrid, passing union resolutions
- sending donations for campaign costs to "Friends of Astrid Proll"
- writing to newspapers, MP's, etc., speaking on radio phone-in programmes
- collecting signatures for our petition
- putting up posters in your place of work

"FRIENDS OF ASTRID PROLL", 109 Backchurch Lane, London E.1.  
Cheques to F.A.P. Acct. No. 50062315 Coop Bank, Leman St., E.1.



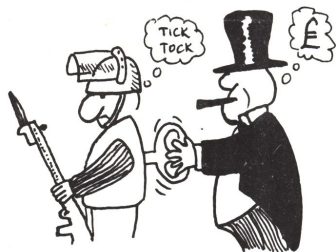
**Join the Army; travel to exotic,  
distant lands; meet exciting, unusual  
people and kill them.**

# What is it like for soldiers?



## Be a KILLER

Soldiers are trained to kill without question, and you won't be allowed to think for yourself when you're in. As you can see here, the army is not a peace-keeping force



## THE JOB

### Be a SCAB

Many times, working class soldiers have found themselves in action against trade-unionists on strike for fair pay and conditions. These soldiers are forced to betray their class.

Often their lives are put at risk merely to protect private property, for instance during the strike by firemen. Dockers and dustmen have also found their jobs taken over by troops. Because strike-breaking soldiers did their work, they were forced back to work without getting a fair deal.

All through history, armies have been used by the rich and rulers to maintain their power. More and more the army will be used in Britain against ordinary people like YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS.

FIGHT TO CHANGE THE SYSTEM! DON'T FIGHT FOR THE SYSTEM!

IF YOU JOIN, YOU'RE . . . . .

Mrs Emily Groven, aged 52, was standing at a window of her house watching the Pops in the street. Suddenly one popped up and fired at her from five yards. The bullet gouged out her left eye, took off an inch of her nose and then took out the other eye.

(Guardian)

'Although you mean about Ireland you know at least you're going to have the chance to shoot some bastard through the head'

Infantry Officer  
(Guardian)

We were supposed to be there to keep the peace, but I found a lot of prejudice in the Marines against ordinary Catholics.

The attitude was that you went in and hit anyone in sight. A woman was hit over the head by a so-called friend of mine. I know the difference between right and wrong and that was wrong. That shouldn't be part of the job.

Brian Moran, Royal Marine  
(42nd Commando)



## TROOPS OUT OF IRELAND!

Pop in Leicester 24th Highcross St.

Kathleen Stewart holds out a plastic bullet, which killed her son



**BARMY**



|                                                 |       |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Unit Feature - RWF .....                        | 3     |
| Crossword, Starcast, Pen Pals, Pop Twenty ..... | 4     |
| News Roundup .....                              | 6,7,8 |
| Focus .....                                     | 9     |
| Seamus .....                                    | 10    |
| Sport .....                                     | 10,11 |
| Pin Up, Small Ads .....                         | 12    |

## Fooling the Squaddies

The British army has not one propaganda machine but two. There is the one for public consumption. But there is also the one for its own lower ranks, the "squaddies."

This internal propaganda is a permanent feature of the army and absolutely essential to it. The reason for its existence derives from the fact that the army recruits from the working class, yet is an instrument in the service of the ruling class. It has to break down the loyalty of these recruits to their background and replace it with loyalty to the army.

In previous colonial situations this was very easy. Everyone in the army was British and everyone else could be grouped under the collective term "wogs." It was different for the army when they came to Ireland in 1969.

For a start, people in Belfast or Derry didn't look like the enemy, didn't have yellow skin or black, fuzzy hair or esoteric religions. Also they lived in houses bewilderingly similar to the houses squaddies themselves lived in in Liverpool, Newcastle or Glasgow.

After a brief "honeymoon" period in which Catholics were still being presented by the British media as "goodies", the internal propaganda machine went to work. One ex-British army officer has told us of how they were given a history of Ireland which began with them solemnly being told that Ireland was the last country to emerge from the Ice Age and that because of that it still had a backward civilisation. For the lower ranks the propaganda was even cruder. Each soldier going to Ireland in 1969 was given a copy of a booklet entitled Notes on Northern Ireland, which pur-

ported to explain the situation. It presented the IRA as a bizarre mystical cult, all members of which, it was claimed, swore the following oath:

*"I swear by Almighty God, by the Blessed Virgin Mary, by her tears and wailings, by the Blessed Rosary and Holy Beads to fight until we die, wading in the fields of Red Gore of the Saxon Tyrants and Murderers of the Glorious Cause of Nationality, and if spared, to fight until there is not a single vestige and a space for a foot-path left to tell that the Holy Soil of Ireland was trodden on by the Saxon Tyrants and the murderers, and moreover, when the English Protestant Robbers and Beasts in Ireland shall be driven into the sea like the swine that Jesus Christ caused to be drowned, we shall embark for, and take, England, root out every vestige of the accursed Blood of the Heretics, Adulterers and Murderers of Henry VIII and possess ourselves of the treasures of the beasts that have so long kept our Beloved Isle of Saints in bondage, and we shall not give up the conquest until we have our Holy Father complete ruler of the British Isles ... so help me God."*

(See Ulster by Sunday Times Insight Team, pp. 152-3)

What is interesting about this piece of hokum is that it was not invented by the British army, but dates back to 1918 and is actually a forgery concocted by the Ulster Unionists of the time. So, it was to loyalist mythology that the army's propagandists turned in 1969 to help fix the squaddies' attitudes to the Catholics.

As the army settled into its role as an army of occupation relationships between it and the nationalist population ran their inevitable course. The hostility directed against the army was

reciprocated, encouraged and driven along racist channels by the internal propaganda such as the various regimental magazines. There were countless Irish jokes, and "serious" stories that were even funnier, like this army-saves-kids-from-danger one:

*"the children were promptly grabbed by Fusiliers, who disregarded the fire to carry them away down the steep bank to a safe position."*

But the story ends rather pathetically:

*"The only trouble is that the kids were too young to realise we were helping and now scream whenever we go near."*

This is from the regimental paper of the 2nd Fusiliers, dating from 1972 when they were based in Andersonstown. The paper is not without its sinister side. It thanks and names people in the area who, it claims, have "supplied information."

In February 1974 a new paper was begun, entitled Visor and described as the "service news for Northern Ireland." Now that the army had established itself as a more permanent force, Visor was intended to fill a gap between the individual regimental papers and the magazine Soldier, which is intended for the entire British army, at home and abroad.

Visor conformed with the new British policy of "normalisation" or de-politicisation. The squaddie was no longer to consider himself surrounded by violent political zealots, but by, in the main, decent people, though with a hard core of thugs and murderers. The IRA (or PIRA, as the army always calls it) were no longer mysterious Papish plotters but "cheap criminals whose livelihood is supported in almost every way by the British tax-payer." Eventually the guilt has to be shared





G.O.C. House and Chief Constable Neuman find Visor funny

out amongst the people of the nationalist areas, who after a time become referred to, not as "ordinary decent people," but by a new term: "yobbos;" the children are "yoblets." Having no real political grievances, these people cannot, *Visor* believes, stage political demonstrations, but will only, from their inbred desire for chaos, cause "aggro." For example, reporting on the protests following Frank Stagg's death, *Visor* carries the following report from the 1st Battalion of the Argyll and Southern Highlanders:

*"The death of an IRA hunger striker was the excuse needed for an outbreak of aggro. The yobbos and yoblets hijacked and set fire to cars and lorries and stoned and bottled patrols."*

Very occasionally an attempt at a deeper understanding might be made in the regimental magazines. Take for instance the class analysis offered by a member of 45 Marine Commando writing in the journal of the Marines, the *Globe and Laurel*. He observes a difference between the people in the better housing of central Andersonstown, who are "extremely friendly, broad-minded families," as opposed to the "rather obnoxious narrow-minded people in some parts of the estates."

Such a serious piece of class prejudice would never be attempted by *Visor*, whose tone remains jokey. The headline of the first issue read "Grin and Bear It," and is a succinct summary of *Visor's* message to squaddies. It is

It never attempts to explain or understand the enemy. As in the TV programme "Spearhead", the IRA are treated as being an inexplicable occurrence, people who kill for no reason. The army's job is to stop people killing each other but not to wonder why they do it. It is an attitude encapsulated in the following passage from an article in the April 1977 edition of *Soldier*. Writing about the Parachute Regiment's temporary accommodation in Ballymurphy, it says:

*"The modern counterpart of a Wild West stockade, the 'wriggly tin' fortress is surrounded by the 'Indian country' of the notorious Ballymurphy estate with its fervent Republican sympathies."*

The soldiers are inside the fortress. Outside are the Indians. The Greeks, the Adenis, the Kikuyus, the Arabs. The enemies. The wogs. Us.



"Chatting up the yoblets," says *Visor*



# anarchy



If you believe what you read in the Sun and the Mail you'd think that groups of evil anarchists bent on creating chaos are stalking the country.

In fact, anarchists don't want chaos, don't want destruction. We're not against organisation, we just want to see society organised in a different way—a way without police, army, government, without order givers and order takers. No-one should have the power to control the life of another, be it man over woman, boss over worker, white over black, adult over child. Anarchists don't think power is a necessary evil, power is simply an evil.

Everyone thinks that a socialist society free of bosses and government is a beautiful ideal — what makes us different is that we think it's possible. We don't think people can be made perfect — what we do believe is that people have the capacity to co-operate, to live and work together without the need for bosses. We don't think we can create a utopia, a paradise without problems. There will still be problems but we believe people have the capacity to solve them by acting co-operatively in a free and equal society.

Anarchy is the freedom to determine your own life.

We realise that this leaflet begs many questions. If you'd like to know more, just ask. We can be contacted at Blackthorn Books (74 Highcross St., Leicester. tel 21896) which has a large stock of anarchist material.

Leicester Anarchists.



Since the Thatcher Government came to power, we have seen mass unemployment, rising inflation and an erosion of the Welfare State. The Labour Party and Trade Unions have successfully defused any potentially revolutionary situation and channelled working-class activity into their bureaucratic organisations. The result has been social apathy and disillusionment.

Today, more than ever, there is the need for the working-class to gain direct control of their lives, rather than renounce their responsibility to any party 'leadership'.

We feel that if anarchism is to offer any viable alternative to other revolutionary socialist programmes, then it is of the utmost importance that its advocates are both theoretically and practically capable of demonstrating the credibility of libertarian organisation. A divided and politically incoherent movement cannot demonstrate this and accordingly anarchism is rendered politically redundant.

We cannot have a united movement as long as anarchists remain divided between those who understand anarchism as a loose set of (apolitical) principles connected with individualism and those who view anarchism as insolvably linked with class struggle.

The critics of anarchist organisation advocate the need for the liberation of the individual from the trappings of state and authority. But they do not envisage the dawning of this liberation as being resultant from a concerted, mass working-class movement. So, somehow or another (and it is by no means clear how) individual liberty will be attained via self-liberation and self-actualisation of each individual's real aspirations. In a post-revolutionary (socialist) society this is a supreme goal. But within the confines of the present pre-revolutionary and capitalist society, such an environment cannot be brought about unless a consciousness of the class struggle and a mass working-class movement are developed.

We have stressed the need for the rejection of individualism and for the growth of a class-struggle consciousness and towards this end we see the need for more critical analysis of basic anarchist assumptions within the Glasgow Anarchist Group. Without this development the Glasgow Anarchist Group will continue to react sporadically to coming events rather than develop a true revolutionary consciousness.

Gerry Cranwell

Maureen Cranwell

Dougie Hamilton

Contact D. Hamilton

101/2 Abbeylands Road,  
Faifley,  
Clydebank.

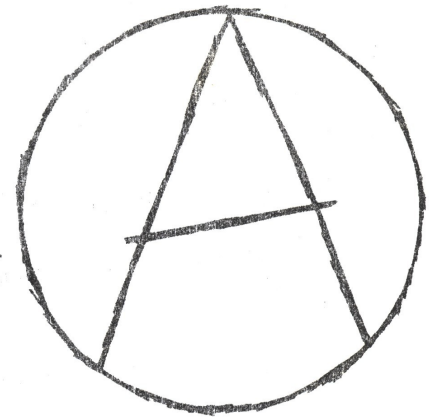


Fight War

Not Wars.

Destroy Power

Not People.



It is not enough to oppose Nuclear Weapons - we must oppose all weapons and armies, and the system of Greed, Violence + oppression which needs them to defend itself.

We live in a society in which wealth + power are in the hands of a small elite + the majority are more or less powerless - brainwashed into accepting this by education, advertising, religion etc etc.

When the brainwashing breaks down the STATE is there with

its Police, Army, Courts + Prisons  
to silence dissent.

The Bomb is only the ultimate  
symbol of the states authority.

If we wish for a world in  
which there is Peace Freedom +  
Equality we will have to fight  
capitalism + the state.

We cannot do this just by  
Leafletting, marching + petitioning.  
Soon we will have to take direct  
Action - occupying, sabotage and  
so forth.

The Arms manufacturers, politicians  
and generals will not listen to  
reason. If we wish to survive, let  
alone create a decent world for our  
children, we, the People must take  
power.

x x x x x x x x x  
**ANARCHY**

WOOF  
WOOF!!





## ANNOUNCING, THE GLASGOW ANARCHISTS' ASSOCIATION.

This magazine may have suprised you. Perhaps you always thought that anarchy meant chaos and pointless acts of violence, but as you see this is far from the truth. The defunct Glasgow branch of the Organisation of Revolutionary Anarchists who put out this magazine had a very different message to get across.- Peace, Love and above all Freedom.

The Glasgow Anarchists' Association is a new group and we do not necessarily agree with everything in this publication. However our basic ideas are the same - complete freedom for the individual, as long as it does not interfere with the freedom of another. This is our 'Revolution'; not a futuristic myth, but something we can act on today. What's the point of dreaming of the Revolution tomorrow or the day after, if we don't start to build it today?

If you would be interested to learn more about anarchism - or perhaps you have always been interested in it - contact John, Gerry or Dave by phoning 334 5588 and look out for our book stall. You cannot rely on the adresses in 'Triad'.being up to date.

ANNOUNCING THE GLASGOW ANARCHISTS' ASSOCIATION.



# anarchy

nothing less will do !!

@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@

"That liberty without socialism is privilege  
without liberty is slavery and brutality"(Bakunin).

AN IMPOSSIBLE DREAM ? LIGHT YEARS AWAY ? IMPRACTICAL ? UTOPIAN ?  
WOULD you believe it ? Is it no coincidence that authorities of all types & descriptions recoil in horror at the mere thought of what they call "the masses" being capable of rising up free & organising social life, including production and distribution without recourse to be told what to do ? AUTHORITIES come in all shapes & sizes: some want to conserve the established order; others want to reform it to greater or lesser degree, others want to "seize power" through revolutionary insurrection. However, they only give the appearance of being different.

By definition, societies where a separate layer of the population have the power to define themselves as authorities/rulers are HIERARCHIAL.

Following on from this, these societies are also CAPITALIST, in that the whole population don't directly appropriate the benefit of their labour. This parasitical layer may either CONTROL or Own the means of production.

The society which we are opposed to stands committed to the outmoded pillars of HIERARCHY (a separation between 'the people' & decision-making);

CAPITALISM (the god of 'progress', whether planned in a 'scientific' manner or otherwise & the extraction of a surplus from the 'world of work');

PATRIARCHY (people divided by sex into supportive roles to uphold the family & the mis-education of the young).

If you want to discuss our ideas

contact : \_\_\_\_\_



# **LEGALISE CANNABIS CAMPAIGN**



**2 Blenheim Crescent | London W11 2EE | 01-727 8805**





# CANNABIS:

## The Case for Legal Change

**C**annabis is the most widely enjoyed illegal drug in the UK today. It is estimated that five million people have committed a criminal offence trying it. A century of scientific research into cannabis and health has failed to substantiate claims about its supposed ill effects on the individual and society. Yet in Britain today anyone found in possession of cannabis faces a maximum penalty of five years imprisonment.

The Legalise Cannabis Campaign believes the use of cannabis to be a matter of personal choice in which the law should play no part. As President Carter said to the US Congress in 1977: *"Penalties against the possession of a drug should not be more damaging to the individual than the use of the drug itself; and where they are, they should be changed. Nowhere is this more clear than in the possession of marijuana in private for personal use"*.

### A Brief Legal History of Cannabis

In 1925, Britain signed the International Opium Convention binding its signatories to impose internal controls on the use and distribution of various drugs. Cannabis was included in the Convention as a result of pressure from the Egyptian government who claimed regular use led to *"chronic hashism"*. Evidence of this syndrome remains non-existent to this day. However, Britain prohibited cannabis in the 1925 Dangerous Drugs Act and has continued to restrict cannabis use and supply in subsequent amending legislation.

In 1958 a Government Committee, under the chairmanship of Sir Russell Brain, reported that *"in our opinion, cannabis is not a drug of addiction; it is an intoxicant"*. Yet Britain signed a further international agreement, the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, which listed cannabis as a drug to be controlled *"having strong addictive properties"* and constituting a *"risk to public health"*. New controls on the drugs listed in the Single Convention were introduced in the 1965 Dangerous Drugs Act. A further Act in 1967 gave the police new powers to stop and search people for prohibited drugs without arresting them.

In 1966 the Government appointed a

Standing Advisory Committee on the Misuse of Drugs, which published the Wootton Report in 1968. In its cautious conclusions, the Committee recommended a reduction in penalties for cannabis offences and a clear legal distinction to be made between cannabis and other drugs such as heroin.

These distinctions were enacted in the 1971 Misuse of Drugs Act, which groups controlled drugs into Classes A, B and C. Class A carries the heaviest penalties, and includes the opiates, LSD and cocaine. Cannabis is a Class B drug, along with amphetamines. The maximum penalty for possession of cannabis is five years imprisonment and/or an unlimited fine. Cultivation, supply and import and export of cannabis all carry maximum penalties of 14 years imprisonment and/or an unlimited fine.

The Government has appointed the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs to help formulate policy and legislation. They meet in private, and their infrequent reports are rarely published. Any proposed changes in the legal status of cannabis are referred to the Advisory Council for their views, and their 1979 report on penalties for drug offences recommends reclassification of cannabis to Class C and substantial reductions in present penalties.

### Cannabis and Health

All available evidence supports the Wootton Committee's conclusion that the moderate use of cannabis is not deleterious to health. The latest annual US Government review of research into marijuana and health concludes:

- cannabis use does not lead to physical dependency;
- there is no reliable evidence of brain damage, inherited abnormalities or increased susceptibility to disease;
- aggression is reduced; there is no relationship between cannabis use and criminality;
- there are no permanent effects on intellectual performance or attainment, or loss of motivation unequivocally attributed to cannabis use;
- studies in cultures where long term use is common have shown no significant or lasting psychological or physiological effects.

Criticisms from the anti-cannabis lobby

are based almost entirely on animal experiments using huge dosages.

During the past 80 years there have been more than 15 major national and international reports and commissions of inquiry on cannabis. Each report has reached broadly the same conclusions: that the dangers of cannabis have been greatly exaggerated, that moderate use is not harmful, that excessive use is rare and even then does not lead to any disability.

The most recent British appraisal of cannabis has been published by the government's Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs, whose Technical Subcommittee reported in June 1979 that: *"There was no compelling evidence that occasional moderate use of cannabis is likely to have detrimental physical effects on individual users..."* and *"the available reports on the health of the individual of what is deemed to be long continued heavy use of cannabis contain no evidence of consequential harmful effects on physical health..."*.

### Cannabis and Other Drugs

There is no evidence that cannabis use leads to the use of any other illegal drug. Only a tiny proportion of those who use cannabis use any other controlled drug, and where a pattern of multi-drug use occurs, no causal relationship between the use of cannabis and other controlled drugs has ever been established. The connection between cannabis and other controlled drugs is simply a result of their illegality. *"The fact should be emphasised that the overwhelming majority of users do not progress to other drugs"* (Shafer Commission, USA, 1972).

### Medical Uses of Cannabis

Cannabis has been used for the relief of a variety of ailments for thousands of years. Recent research has shown cannabis to be effective in the treatment of asthma, glaucoma, spasticity and the side effects of chemotherapy treatment for cancer patients. In 16 US states it is now legal to prescribe cannabis for certain medical purposes. Doctors are not allowed to prescribe cannabis in this country for medical purposes.

CAMPAIGN SPONSORS: Lord Avebury, Lord Beaumont, Rev Eric Blakeborough, Richard Branson, Anthony Burton, Peter Cadogan, Julie Christie, Commander Cody, Maureen Colquhoun, Lord Gifford, Nicholas Guppy, Peter Hain, The Haldane Society of Socialist Lawyers, Steve Hillage, Brian Inglis, Alexis Korner, The Labour Campaign for Criminal Justice, Roger McGough, Lord Melchett, George Melly, Dr Jonathan Miller, Michael Moorcock, National Association of Probation Officers, National Council for Civil Liberties, National League of Young Liberals, National Organisation of Labour Students, National Union of School Students, National Union of Students, Rev Stephen O'Brien, David Offenbach, John Peel, Dr Colin Phipps, Release, Jeremy Sandford, Dr Justin Schlacht, Michael Schofield, Bob Searchfield, Ian Sheratt, Rev Terry Tanner, Prof Laurie Taylor, Nicolas Walter, Michael White, John Williams, Baroness Wootton of Abinger, Jock Young, Young Communist League of Great Britain.



## The Results of Prohibition

It is commonly believed that police in this country are not interested in prosecuting people for personal use of cannabis. This is not true. In 1978, 10,072 people were convicted for simple possession of cannabis, 75% of all drug offences. A further 918 people were convicted for cultivating cannabis plants. The quantities involved in most of these cases are very small — probably 90% of convictions for simple possession involved less than one ounce. The police even go to the lengths of scraping out the insides of pipes or pockets to obtain evidence.

It is also believed that the effects of a cannabis conviction are rarely serious. In 1977, 649 people were given custodial sentences for simple possession, and a further 474 received suspended prison sentences. Even those who do not lose their freedom face serious consequences.

A person with a cannabis conviction will have a criminal record for the rest of their life, which is, in practice, accessible to the police, government employers and foreign police forces. Although the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 prevents the offence becoming publicly known under certain circumstances, there are many exceptions to the Act's provisions. Those working in 'sensitive' professions such as teaching, medicine, law and youth work, must always declare their previous convictions. Foreign travel becomes restricted for those with a cannabis conviction, as certain countries regard this offence as a valid reason to refuse entry.

The conviction can also directly or indirectly lead to the loss of employment, and certain professions can become permanently closed to those with a criminal record, including teaching, medicine, nursing, social work, and government employees. Students studying for these professions can be prevented from ever qualifying, or can be expelled from their institutions. In many fields victimisation is common, taking the form of 'backroom isolation' or loss of promotion prospects.

An arrest and conviction can also lead to the loss of a tenancy for those in rented accommodation.

Besides the extreme unpleasantness of the immediate experience of being searched, arrested, held in custody by the police and going to court, in the long term a cannabis conviction can cause a great deal of hardship and suffering for those unlucky enough to be caught.

The number of people affected by cannabis prohibition is much larger than conviction statistics indicate. In 1977, there were 15,850 reported personal searches for drugs outside London (no figures are available for drug searches in the Metropolitan Police District). Only 25% of these searches resulted in drugs being found, with a large number of unsuccessful searches never recorded. These police powers are widely abused to harass certain sections of the community, particularly young people and black people.

## International Prohibition

There are now several precedents for ending or reducing criminal penalties for possession of cannabis. Eleven US states have decriminalised possession of cannabis and many other states have decriminalisation bills pending. More than one third of the US population are now living in decriminalised states. Surveys conducted in Oregon, Maine and California after decriminalisation indicated no significant increase in use and a majority in favour of the change. In California it was estimated that in the first year of decriminalisation there, \$25 million had been saved in law enforcement resources.

In Europe, the UK has amongst the

highest penalties for possession. Many European countries no longer impose prison penalties for possession for personal use, and in Austria, Denmark, Holland, Italy, Sweden, Switzerland, West Germany and Yugoslavia prosecutions are no longer brought for possession of small quantities.

However, all signatories to the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs are obliged to enforce adequate penalties against the distribution of cannabis. It will not be possible to remove cannabis from the criminal law altogether without amending the Single Convention, although legal possession and cultivation for personal use would not breach the terms of the treaty.

**The Legalise Cannabis Campaign believes that the use of cannabis is a matter of personal choice in which the criminal law should play no part:**

- All penalties for personal use should be removed immediately, with no arbitrary limit set on the amount permissible for such use.
- The offence of allowing premises to be used for smoking cannabis should be abolished.
- All criminal records for previous cannabis offences should be expunged following the repeal of legislation which created those offences. People who have been convicted of comparable offences abroad should not be denied entry to the UK on these grounds.
- Doctors should be entitled to prescribe cannabis for medical purposes in the same way as any medicine.
- Pending full legalisation, supply offences should not be treated as serious criminal offences and supply charges should not apply at all to those cases where cannabis is being distributed on a non-profit basis.
- Cannabis should be removed altogether from the UN Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs.
- Methods of legal distribution of cannabis should be investigated and put into action as soon as practicably possible. These measures should include protection for the consumer and the restriction of advertising.

**The Legalise Cannabis Campaign** is a membership organisation with several regional branches. Members receive a regular newsletter and details of the Campaign's national and local activities. For further information please contact:

**LEGALISE CANNABIS CAMPAIGN**  
**2 Blenheim Crescent | London W11 1NN | 01-727 8805**





# Labour Party Young Socialists

CAN YOU AFFORD RENT INCREASES?  
IF YOU WANT TO FIGHT THESE THEN COME TO  
OUR PUBLIC DEBATE :\_\_

AT WINDLAW PRIMARY SCH., DUNAGOIL RD.  
ON THURS. 7 TH. MAY AT 7.30PM.

**SPEAKERS: GEORGE MANSON \_ DISTRICT CLR.**

LARRY FLANAGAN LPYS.

AN OFFICEBEARER

SCOTTISH TENANTS ORG.

# THE LPYS DEMAND

# NO RENT INCREASES

## NO RATE INCREASES

# NO CUTS

P&P STEVEN GILLAN 631/ 1871

**LABOUR PARTY YOUNG SOCIALISTS**

# PUBLIC MEETING

**militant**

**Under the Trotskyist**

**The real truth.**

**Exclusive Sunday Times reveals secret blueprint of Trotskyite network**

**Labour Left-wing militants**

By Ian Aitken Political Lord yesterday to put

in a BBC the docu come from country include report to five yr

Hayward in the month

**ST. MARGT. MARY'S SCH.  
CASTLEMILK,  
TUES. 22 JAN. 7-3**





CASTLEMILK

# SCOTSMAN

Castlemilk SNP News MARCH 1981



CAROL COOPER  
34 RAITHBURN AVE  
ARMARION BEELY PIECE CWS

# SNP



# SKINHEADS

## AGAINST THE NAZIS

When 100 white kids ran riot down Brick Lane a while back, some of them had short hair, people identified them with Skinheads and thought all Skins to be racist. But there's more to being a Skinhead than just cutting your hair....anyone can do that.

The late 60's and early 70's was the time of the first generation of Skinheads. They followed football teams and liked Reggae music.

### NOW SKINHEADS ARE BACK

We still like Reggae music and also we like bands such as SHAM 69 SHAM have done RAR gigs in the past and will continue to do them despite the fact that a rumour has been going round that the British Movement have threatened to do Jimmy Pursey because of this. Jimmy Pursey is also a supporter of the Anti Nazi League. The NF want to use Skins as muscle to smash up people who are making a stand against racism in the interests of everyone.... including Skinheads. What the NF DON'T tell Skinheads is that if they did get to power they would smash Skins, just as they will smash Blacks, Jews, and Unions etc. Also there would be no more Reggae music cos that is black music, no Sham 69 cos Jimmy Pursey stands up for working class kids and anyway, the music comes from blacks, all Rock music does.

### AND THERE WOULD BE NO SKINS

No Skins because we dress how we want and do what we want. Nazis don't like us to have minds of our own cos they want to control us. We would dress in military uniforms all the time, instead of boots and braces. We'd march to military music (brass bands) and listen to symphonies.... which is as far away from the "Skinhead Moonstomp" and "Al Capone" as you can get.

IF THE SKINS ARE UNITED THEY'LL NEVER BE DIVIDED

That's what Sham 69 say and that's what we've got to do if we want a Skinhead future. No kidding , the Nazis HATE us. They stand for discipline and hatred, they're NO FUN and they don't like fun....

THEY ARE AGAINST EVERYTHING THAT SKINHEADS STAND FOR.

Skins against the Nazis was started by a group of Skins from East London. For badge (15p) and more copies of this leaflet (£1.25 for 250) fill in order form below. We are going to have our own Skins against the Nazis paper. If you want to write , draw, help or contribute any ideas, write to Chris/Sharon, Skins Against the Nazis, P.O. Box 151, London WC2.



I WANT TO JOIN SKINS AGAINST THE NAZIS

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

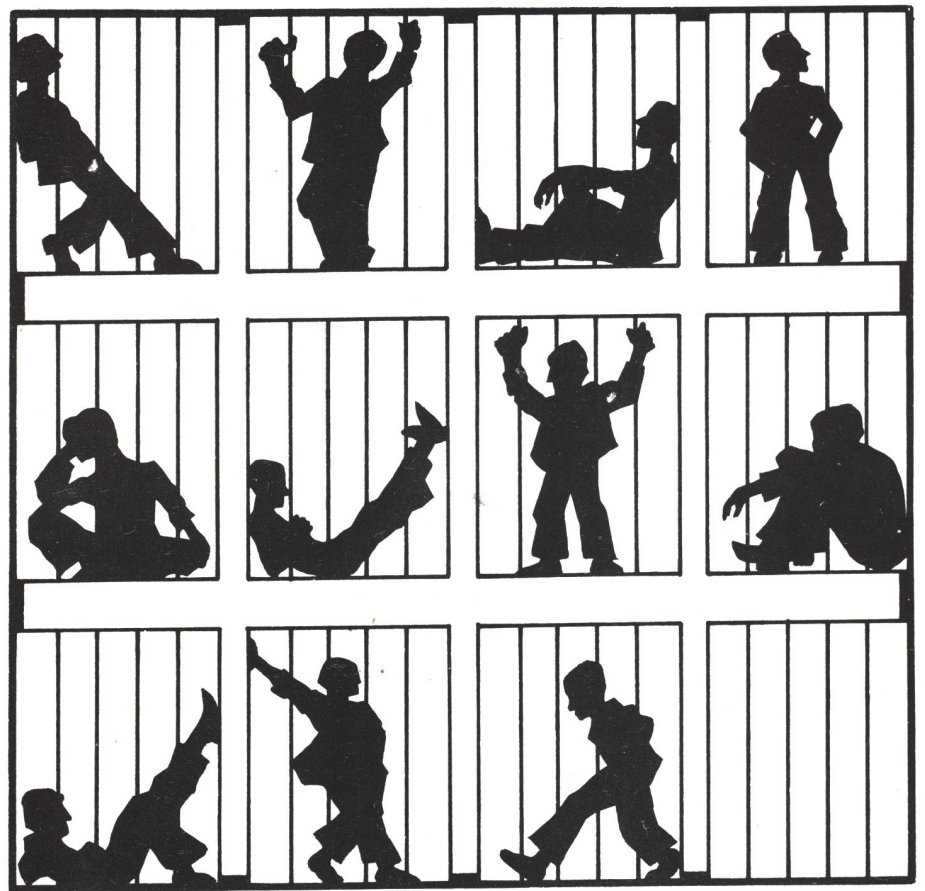
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Badge \_\_\_\_\_ Leaflets \_\_\_\_\_

(fill in N<sup>o</sup> required)

Please make P.O.'s and cheques payable to Anti Nazi League and send to: Skins Against The Nazis, P.O. Box 151, London WC2





# PRISONS ARE POINTLESS

The aim of Radical Alternatives to Prison (RAP) is the abolition of prison. Prison is a destructive and discriminating institution. The vast majority of prisoners come from a background of deprivation; low income, bad housing and poor education. Prison does nothing to help them to break out of this environment but rather confirms and traps them within it.

Although RAP began by advocating alternatives to prison we no longer see them as a complete solution. We have seen too many schemes being used as a form of control, based on the same values and punitive assumptions that underpin the prison system. The stated aim of prison is to deter people from breaking the law and to rehabilitate those who do so; neither aim ever has been, or ever will be, fulfilled. The prison population continues to rise, crime is increasing and recidivism rates remain high. Imprisonment can only increase rather than decrease the possibility of a person re-offending. By isolating the individual from family, friends and community, withholding basic human rights and denying him responsibility, prison degrades and stigmatises, inflicting wounds which seldom heal.

RAP realises that abolition at a stroke is hardly likely and therefore campaigns for immediate changes which do not simply ameliorate the lot of the prisoner but are positive steps towards the removal of prisons from our society. We campaign against legislation and attitudes which feed the prison system, we make the hidden facts known, thereby educating and changing public opinion, which is the group's role. In the past we have campaigned against the rebuilding of Holloway, which reflected the shifting categorisation of 'criminals' from wrongdoers to sick people. RAP played a leading part in the campaign for the closure of the control units — a regime of sensory deprivation aimed at breaking those prisoners who fought against the injustices they encountered in prison. We are accepted as one of the groups whose views on penal topics are sought. We have been partly responsible for the current trend towards alternatives to prison and more recently in making people question whether prison is justified at all, at least for certain offences.

Over the next two years RAP will be focussing and campaigning on four particular issues which will highlight the prejudice involved in deciding who should be incarcerated in prison and what happens to those who end up there. In the autumn, together with the NCCL, we will publish a pamphlet which will reveal the secrecy covering our entire prison system, masking the prisoner and the injustices and inhuman treatment he receives from the public eye. Later in the year RAP will turn to the problem of the 'Young Offender'. Building on our earlier work in this area, we will be calling for a complete change of values in 'dealing' with young people, based on a respect for their rights and needs, as opposed to hauling them up before the courts when they react against the spiral of deprivation within which many of them are trapped. Together with PROP, the National Prisoners Movement, we will be calling attention to the growing use of drugs in our prisons for the purposes of control and behaviour modification. We will also turn our attention to the 'Dangerous Offender', pointing out how society differentiates between one kind of danger (personal) and another (social) and locating the causes and solutions to this problem in society itself rather than the courts and the penal system.

Since 1971 RAP has been under the umbrella of Christian Action, but now, due to the limited resources of Christian Action and its policy of encouraging projects to become independent, we desperately need to find other sources of income. To carry out the work we have set ourselves, we need an income of £25,000 over the next two years. We believe that RAP is an essential part of the penal lobby. If you agree *please give us your support*. We have set ourselves the target of expanding our membership to 1,000 (presently 400) by the end of this year, thereby strengthening our voice and facilitating fundraising.

For £5.00 you can become a member, receive a monthly newsletter and other information. A donation or a covenant would be equally welcome. Will you help us?

.....  
Please detach and send to Radical Alternatives to Prison, 15 Blackfriars Lane, London EC4.

I wish to become a RAP member

I enclose a donation of £

I would like more information on RAP

Please send me details of Bankers Orders and Deed of Covenant

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

RAP is a project of Christian Action (Reg. Charity No. 212862)

*Sponsors:* Lord Tony Gifford, Lord Soper, Lord MacLeod of Finnary,

C.H. Rolph, David Markham, Robert Kilroy-Silk MP



# Sus

Organ of the Steering Committee  
BPOCAS

Number 1 June 1978

Price 10p

**Black Organisations Launch**

## CAMPAIGN AGAINST SUS

WEDNESDAY, 1 February 1978, will remain a memorable day in the history of black people in Britain. It was on this day that the Black People's Organisations Campaign against Sus (BPOCAS) was formed, as an umbrella organisation for many black groups, and, together with a number of other groups, Barristers and Solicitors, launched the 'sus' campaign which publicly called for:-

- 1. The repeal of Section 4 of the 1824 Vagrancy Act, commonly known as 'sus', under which the police can arrest anybody as a 'suspected person loitering with intent to commit a felonious offence.'
- 2. An independent inquiry into police-black relations.

Nearly 200 people were at the public meeting held at John Evelyn School, Deptford, SE8. Speakers included Alex Lyon, MP, and Claudius Johnston, black youth student. The campaign was initiated by the West Indian-African Community Association whose members were concerned about the oppressive nature of the legislation, the repressive manner in which the police are using it, and the depressive environment of the black community generally.

Below are extracts from speeches made at the meeting by Paul Boateng of the Paddington Law Centre and the Reverend Basil Manning of the North Lewisham Project. The first speaks of police repression and how to fight it, the second of psychological effects of arrest on black youths and the concern of the black community.

**Paul Boateng:**

"It is right that this campaign should be concerned about repealing the Vagrancy Act, that we should make contact with people like Alex Lyon, and that we should be aware of what political muscle we have to alter the Act, but we must not forget that even if the Act is gone, the problem of the police is there.

"So even if we get rid of sus, what we have to face with our own community at the same time as supporting this campaign and fighting for the repeal of this Act, is how we are going to cope with the problem of the police, how we are going to organise

ourselves to defend our youths, how we are going to react as a community when our youths are harassed, beaten and are picked up in the streets.

"We've got to learn, as a community, how to come together and how to fight these cases. I hope that you will give some time to discussing this Act this evening because we have two very distinguished black members of the Bar here, Ron Rose and Rudy Narayan who, time and time again, have been in the front line defending black youths, who have put the reputation of their careers on the line for our black people. It is very important that we know how to organise our defences, how to organise our community to give our youths support, and to show the



police that, never mind the sus Act, if they attack our community, we are not going to lie down and let them do it."

**Basil Manning:**

"The other thing which is brought up by the police when representations have been made on this Act is that they need this Act on the statute books because it prevents crime; it is there to do preventative work. As some people have already said in this room tonight, instead of doing preventative work, it seems to us that it creates a criminal class

and a feeling of despair in the minds of some youngsters who, in fact, may end up as criminals.

"I remember counselling a 10-year-old boy from a local school some time last year and, do you know, the thing he was most interested in was 'detention centre' and how he could get in there and what it was like. It had become a cult in his mind because of his daily experiences of what was happening to him and his mates. Or a 14-year-old who would say to me: 'What are you on about Basil? How can you tell me that it is not a place to do this or that, or how can you tell me that we must try and change things when even if I do absolutely nothing, time and again they will pick me up? And if they continue to pick me up for nothing, I might as well do something, in order that they can pick me up for something.' That is a point which you may remember and I am just echoing. This is the one law where, it seems to me, that you are guilty unless proved innocent. You are guilty because you are black, in many cases, and the disproportion amongst the number of people who are picked up on sus are in fact black.

"I have no illusions about the black community's response to the question of crime. I think our response is clear. And when I have spoken to parents and the West Indian-African Community Association, time and time again they have said: 'If our children have in fact committed an offence, then the police are here to do a particular job.' That is what the people in the black community are saying. But we do take exception to the fact that time and again our youngsters are being picked up for absolutely nothing.

"But this is not happening all in the black community. It seems to me that it is happening in a context of deprivation and of discrimination. This law came in, I am told by historians, in another era of deprivation, that is, after the Napoleonic Wars. It was used then to pick up people, and it was used again very heavily in the 30's. It seems to me now, in a time of high unemployment and with all the deprivation in the inner cities, that it is being used against the black community."





## Call to repeal Vagrancy Act

AT a public meeting held on 23 May at the Metro Club in West London, resolutions calling on the Home Secretary, Mr Merlyn Rees, for the urgent repeal of the Vagrancy Act of 1824, section 4, dealing with sus, and for initiating an immediate inquiry into police-black relations were unanimously passed. Paul Boateng, Barrister, was in the Chair.

## Sus Law in the melting pot

LABOUR MP, Arthur Latham, informed the meeting that he had received a written reply the previous day from the Minister of State for the Home Office, Brynmor John, in which she said that the Government had accepted in principle the recommendations of the 1976 Working Party on Vagrancy and Street Offences and intends to see 'suitable legislative opportunities' in the present parliament. The Working Party had talked about an alternative offence of sus even if the Vagrancy Act is repealed. At the moment many MPs, law officers, and others are in favour of having a lesser offence of sus and one which requires stronger proof.

Mr Latham thought that the sus campaign now launched is timely and whether or not a new government is elected in the next twelve months or so, some attempt will be made to amend the law on sus. He pointed out the need, in addition to the public hearings planned by the campaign, for a serious lobby of individual MPs by both black and white groups concerned not only with sus but also with civil liberties.

## A black mother raps sus

MRS STREDWICK, a black mother of Kensal Rise, and a valiant fighter for children and young people throughout London, spoke bitterly against the use of the sus charge by the police to arrest black youths and 'earn promotion'. Her family has suffered a great deal in the hands of the police. She spent months trying to get one of her sons free of the charge of sus when the son was nowhere near the incident he was charged with. Her younger son was convicted with sus in spite of overwhelming evidence against such a charge.

## Exaggeration

CECIL GUTZMORE: 'Horrible, terrible things are happening. Young kids being kicked senseless in police stations, being kicked senseless on the streets. It's not just the sus that we are concerned with. It's the whole evil, rotten system that you can't tell the truth about because the people like Arthur Latham, and all those left-wing MPs, and all those liberals who are supposed to believe in equality, who are supposed to believe in a fair police force, who are supposed to believe in justice, absolutely refuse to accept the evidence that I know is true, the evidence that I can stack up and put before them, and they would always say: 'You are a master of exaggeration, Mr Gutzmore.' Now that is the situation in which we are. Our friends are just like our

enemies because they refuse to do what our friends ought to do. They ought, at least, to accept that we know the truth, that something terrible and rotten and horrible is going on in this society in the relationship between black people and the police, and that something ought to be done about it as a matter of urgency. That, above all, the truth of what is going on has got to be allowed to see the light of day.'

## No Bar career for sus victim—says magistrate

VITUS EVANS, a sus victim, convicted on his first appearance in the Magistrates' Court, was later told by the magistrate that he could not pursue a legal career because of his conviction. He was at the time studying for three 'A' levels and OND. Vitus told the meeting that the magistrate had seen the character references from his course tutors and later came to him to inquire what he intended to do when he got his qualifications, and he answered that he hoped to become a Barrister. However, his appeal to the Crown Court was successful.

## Sus in the media

IN a BBC *Nationwide* programme last April, Alex Lyon, MP, stressed that unless the sus law was repealed there would always be conflict between the black community and the police. London Weekend Television also made a programme around the issue of sus in February. Sus has also been aired on radio and given coverage in national, local and community newspapers throughout the country.

## Public hearings

A SERIES of public hearings about sus is planned to take place in a number of community centres around London, starting next July. Each hearing would be conducted by a lawyer and people would be invited to give evidence of their experiences which could be written down.

## Black women's group

THE United Black Women's Action Group held a public meeting on sus in April at the West Green Community Centre, N15. Norman Atkinson, MP, spoke at the meeting which was well attended.

## Postbag

HERE is £25.00 which I hope you will be able to find a use for.

Could you send me a few badges and posters? I'd like as many badges as you can spare (say 50) so that I can distribute them as widely as possible—also a petition form if you have any. I think your campaign is one of the most important there is and I wish you every success with it.

Good luck!

MICHAEL MOORCOCK

London W11

PS Keep in touch, I'll send more money as I can afford it.

PLEASE send me 24 STAMP SUS OUT badges. I enclose a postal order for £2. If you could send me some posters as well, I will put them in my club for the brothers to see. Thank you.

GRANT ST JOHN

Nr Bexley Heath  
Kent

AS a one time resident in Brixton, I was delighted to see that at last attempts are being made to organise some sort of campaign to repeal the Vagrancy Act as it affects black youths via the sus charge. I'd be really grateful if you could send me as many details as possible about what's going on. And also offer any ideas as to how you might wish a group of people in Cambridge to operate; presumably making the Law Faculty of the University aware of the issue might be a starting point?

Very best wishes for all that you are doing.

YULIAN VILES

Cambridge

AT the Annual General Meeting of NAPO (Probation officers' union) attended by over 600 people, I moved a resolution on Sus and it was passed overwhelmingly—it reads:

*This Association opposes the continued use of 'suspected person' charges (under s4 of the Vagrancy Act 1824) believing such charges to be unsound in principle, open to abuse in practice and thus contrary to natural justice—we resolve to campaign with other interested groups to secure this reform of the law.*

Please let me know of future campaign meetings. I am sorry I am unable to attend the meeting on 23rd.

Greetings.

ROSALIE WATSON

Southall

Middx

The Steering Committee, BPOCAS, welcomes letters, news items, cuttings, reports, press releases, photographs, cartoons, relative to sus and police-black relations.



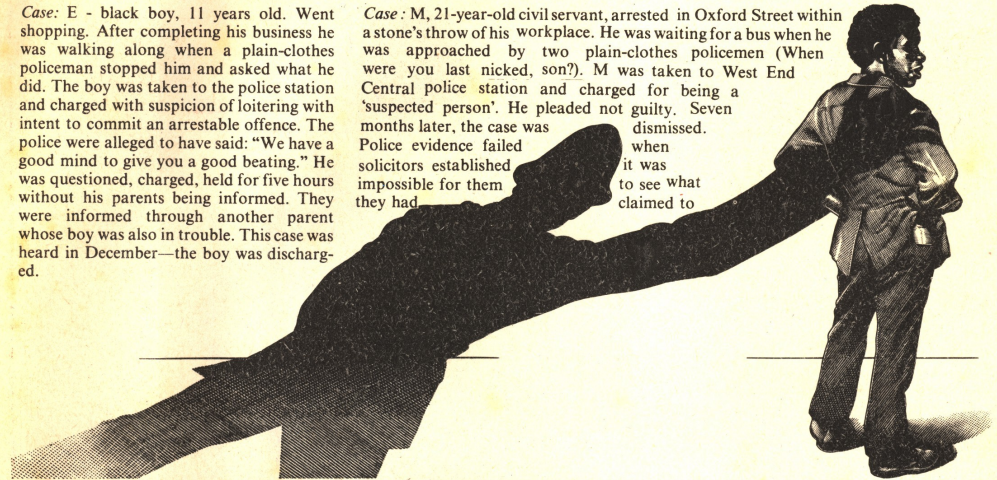
## Sus casebook

A Black Researcher, in liaison with the Black People's Organisations Campaign Against Sus and other supportive groups, is assembling evidence to be presented to the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure. We would like to hear from youths, parents,

professional persons, and others in the black community around London who have had good or bad experience with the police. Please contact BPOCAS, c/o 206 Evelyn Street, Deptford, London SE8 5RZ. Telephone 01-692 7568.

**Case: E** - black boy, 11 years old. Went shopping. After completing his business he was walking along when a plain-clothes policeman stopped him and asked what he did. The boy was taken to the police station and charged with suspicion of loitering with intent to commit an arrestable offence. The police were alleged to have said: "We have a good mind to give you a good beating." He was questioned, charged, held for five hours without his parents being informed. They were informed through another parent whose boy was also in trouble. This case was heard in December—the boy was discharged.

**Case: M**, 21-year-old civil servant, arrested in Oxford Street within a stone's throw of his workplace. He was waiting for a bus when he was approached by two plain-clothes policemen (When were you last nicked, son?). M was taken to West End Central police station and charged for being a 'suspected person'. He pleaded not guilty. Seven months later, the case was dismissed. Police evidence failed when solicitors established it was impossible for them to see what they had claimed to



## Other news

### Move towards police state

THE recommendations recently of the Commons Select Committee report on Race Relations and Immigration will, if fully implemented, openly create a police state in Britain. The report suggests that sanctions be taken against employers who knowingly employ people who overstay their permitted time and who enter the country illegally. It also recommends that an independent inquiry be set up to consider the system of internal control of immigration.

These suggestions and recommendations contain sinister implications. They mean registers and identity cards on top of dossiers which are daily being compiled on immigrants and natives alike. Already cases have been reported of employers being asked by the police to furnish complete lists of black workers for a check on their status. Dawn raids by police and Home Office officials are frequent occurrences in the black community. In one instance, a sick black woman was dragged by the hair screaming from her flat, bare-footed, without her coat, and subsequently deported for being an illegal immigrant. Her status was never proved in court.

Obviously, the Select Committee Report aims for a tougher policy on immigration. But it is racist. It feeds and fans the fears of racist extremists headed by Enoch Powell and the National Front, that white people in this country are being 'swamped' by coloured immigrants. In fact, the report is

not concerned with numbers of immigrants, since most of these are white and have automatic entry, but with coloured people holding United Kingdom Passport who may wish to come to Britain and bring some members of their families. It seeks to break up black families, thereby stirring up racial hostility and denying black people fundamental human rights. Registers, identity cards and dossiers are clear signs that the birth of the police state will not be long.

### Tories against blacks knowing their rights

THE newly elected Conservative Council in the London Borough of Wandsworth have issued warnings to community development groups and law centres that they face cuts in financial support, advisory powers and staffs if they continue taking part in political activities. These include helping black people especially in understanding the problems of sus.

### Rights on arrest

LEWISHAM Council for Community Relations is running a 'help on arrest' scheme in co-operation with the local police. Anyone arrested or taken into custody in Lewisham will automatically receive a leaflet prepared by the LCCR informing them of their rights, and how to get help from a civil rights adviser. Asquith Gibbs, the Senior

Community Relations Officer, thinks that this is the first time that such a scheme has been put into operation in Britain.

Commenting on the scheme, Commander Maurice Taylor, Head of P Division, said: "This scheme should go a long way towards dispelling any apprehension or fears which people may have when detained at a police station. Our aim is to see that prisoners are dealt with fairly and according to law, and I welcome the assistance of the civil rights advisers in demonstrating to the public that this objective is achieved."

## Diary

• JUNE 3 - United Black Women's Action Group - sus campaign social at Tottenham Community Project, 628 High Road, Tottenham, N17. Sounds of Sir Burns and Dubsetta Hi-fi. Afro-Carib foods. 8 pm till late

• JUNE 12 - Merseyside Anti-Racist Alliance. Public meeting on sus at Stanley House Community Centre, Liverpool 8. At 8pm.

• JUNE 15 - The Albany, Creek Road, Deptford, SE8. Benefit evening for the Black People's Organisations Campaign Against Sus. Reggae and Rock, featuring MISTY, ATV and the REALISTS. Starts 8.30 till late.

*Published by The Steering Committee, Black People's Organisations Campaign Against Sus, c/o West Indian-African Community Association, 206 Evelyn Street, London SE8 5RZ. Telephone 01-692 7568*



*TWO policemen, the Reverend Basil Manning (hidden by policeman on the right, but Afro hair still showing) and Chris Orlick, Welfare Rights Worker, discuss 'sus' in front of a sus stall manned by Mavis Clarke, Community Worker, during a recent festival in Deptford organised by All Lewisham Campaign Against Racism And Fascism.*



AFFILIATION to BPOCAS is open to organisations and individuals who support the aims and objectives of the Sus campaign. Subscription rates are:- Organisations £2, Individuals £1. Donations are welcome. Please enrol

Name .....

Organisation .....

Address.....

.....

.....

as an affiliate member to the Black People's Organisations Campaign Against Sus. I/We enclose a Cheque/Postal Order for £..... (and/or a donation of £.....)

Signed..... Date

Please return to:- BPOCAS c/o West Indian-African Community Association, 206 Evelyn Street, Deptford London SE8 5RZ. Telephone 01-692 7568



# FREEDOM FOR BLACK YOUTH AND OTHERS FROM 'SUS'



There is a growing concern in ethnic minorities and a number of other groups, also barristers and solicitors about 'SUS'.

Time and again this charge has been used against young blacks. Lord Justice Scott in 1936- 'It seems wrong to me that these old phrases should still be made the occasion of arrest and prosecution, when in their historical meaning they are so utterly out of keeping with modern life in England.'

These youths deserve a chance like all others. They were born in this country and should be treated as people, not as criminals.

**Black Peoples Organisations Campaign Against SUS (BPOCAS) c/o WIACA 206 Evelyn Street, Deptford, London, SE8, telephone 01-692 7568.**

## JOIN OUR CAMPAIGN TO

- Call for the repeal of the Vagrancy Act: Section 4 - 'SUS'

- Demand an independent inquiry into police black relationships

## ACT NOW!

1. Sign the petition and ask others to sign it.
2. Write to your local MP making the same demands.
3. Join in public activities to call for these demands. Call a public meeting in your area, through the

organisations you belong to.

4. Make a donation to the campaign.

If you would like to support the campaign and make a contribution please send it to BPOCAS (make cheques payable to Black Peoples Organisations Campaign Against SUS) c/o West Indian and African Community Association.

Campaign material is also available. Leaflets free, badges, 15p each; Posters 20p, petition forms free.

## JUSTICE FOR ALL -NOT JUST FOR SOME!



## FORTY TWO YEARS LATER IT'S STILL HAPPENING

Even 10-11 year olds are being picked up, having a bad experience with the police at an early age in their lives.

Innocent children are being picked up—is it because they are black?

Children who have been picked up even on 'SUS' remain on their lists and are picked up time and time again.

The police seem to believe that if you are a *black teenager* (and live in a deprived area)—you are doomed to become a criminal.

Young people are driven to despair—some say. 'What's the point of trying? Even if I don't do anything, they'll still pick on me.'

The police seem to be a law unto themselves; no talking to the ones on the top—the community liaison police don't seem to make any difference to the police in the panda car.

The police *can* and *do* use this law to put children who *they* believe to be guilty 'Away'. Many have openly said to our children. 'Just you wait, I'll get you inside yet'. This is often said in front of parents.

No wonder that the policeman of the year can say without shame: 'For me arresting someone is like having a pint.' (Sunday Times magazine, 26.6.77). What hope for our children?

The SUS law (Vagrancy Act 1824 Section 4) must be repealed. NOW!

1 'SUS'  
- Charge  
Care Order

2 'SUS'  
- Charge  
Assessment  
Centre.

3 'SUS'  
- Charge  
Detention  
Centre.

4 'SUS'  
Charge Borstal

If this 'SUS' law is an excuse for the police to get at our children, then we demand that it be scrapped. No longer can we stand by and see the numbers mounting up.

Time and again youngsters seem to be on a list and once anything happens they seem to be singled out, taken to the police station and questioned.

F - 15 year old, was picked up in April and accused of attempting to steal a car, he was taken to the police station. When his mother arrived, the officer told her he had all the evidence required to prove that the boy was guilty, and that he had had a phone call confirming the charge.

The boy denied the charge, and no case was brought against him. During August an officer called at F's home to investigate a crime. The officer said he suspected that F might have been the

boy seen driving a stolen car. After a discussion he indirectly admitted that F was not the boy concerned.

F was stopped by the police in October and was questioned about a stolen car once more, he denied having any dealings with stolen cars, and was told to push off before he was arrested.

F was riding his bicycle. An officer stopped him and asked him whose bike it was. He told the officer that the bike was his. The officer said the bike fits the description of a bike reported stolen. After he asked the boy his name, he was taken to the police station and was found with a small knife which was with his puncture repair kit. He was charged with having an offensive weapon and is awaiting trial.

What future is there for him and others?

## GUILTY UNLESS PROVED INNOCENT

Many of our children are picked up on 'SUS'—it's become an everyday household word for us. It happens too often. Here are examples of how it takes place.

E - black boy, 11 years old. Went shopping. After completing his business he was walking along when a plain clothes policeman stopped him and asked what he did.

The boy was taken to the police station and charged with suspicion of loitering with intent to commit an arrestable offence (SUS). The police were alleged to have said: 'We have a good mind to give you a good beating. He was questioned, charged, held for five hours without his parents being informed. They were informed through another parent whose boy was also in trouble. This case was heard in December—the boy was

discharged.

E - 21-year-old, a black civil servant, arrested in Oxford Street, within a stone's throw of his workplace. He was waiting for a bus when he was approached by two plain-clothed policemen. (When were you last nicked, son?). Taken to West End central police station. Seven months later the case was dismissed. Police evidence failed when solicitor established it was impossible for them to see what they had claimed to see.

D, C and G, students who usually travelled home from Brixton together, were involved in a 'case of SUS'. G had been convicted of a similar charge previously, but the other two young people involved had no such experience. Their arrest came a couple of evenings after they had exchanged a few unfriendly words with a plain clothes police officer, who was on duty at the bus stops. They were charged with 'SUS' and had to appear in court.

In court, the officer alleged that G and C moved into the crowd when the bus came and attempted to steal from a woman's bag. They were unsuccessful and returned to the spot where D was waiting. Another bus arrived and G and C carried out the same procedure, but this time they were accompanied by D. At this point they were all arrested. D, C and G contested the officer's statement and explained that they were on their way home. Not surprisingly, the magistrate decided in favour of the police. D and C did appeal against their conviction, but only D managed to get the decision against her reversed. This was so, because not even the evidence from the police alleged that D had attempted to steal from anyone. C's conviction though, remained.

Since C's conviction he ran into the police officer that had arrested him in Brixton, the officer gave a superficial greeting and asked how he was getting on. The officer also made it quite clear that he had arrested D, C and G, because of their exchange of words two evenings previous to their arrest.

M. and four other boys were in two groups near Woolworth's and Boot's in Brixton High Street, when they were picked up by the police.

The boys claimed that they were arrested by five officers, who took hold of one boy each. In court one of the arresting officers, R, apart from making a mistake in identification, said that all the boys were in one group and he had seen each boy commit two overt acts connected with what seemed to be attempts to steal from women's bags, in the bus shelter outside Woolworth's, but he, alone, moved forward and joined the bus queue under the shelter. After a second 'incident' he, alone arrested the boys, who did not try to run away. He called the other officers over.

PC H gave consistent evidence, except that he insisted that he had heard the 'arrest' and had been present at it. He also said that he had not seen all the overt incidents. However, the remaining two officers supported the boys' statements. They said they hadn't been called over to assist after the arrest. They said they had been with another officer and had been told that 'they were going to arrest the youths' which they did. They also agreed that the boys were in two groups.

On this evidence the Juvenile Justices dismissed the case without any of the boys being called to give evidence.

It makes you wonder how many of the convictions might be like this.

**BUT ITS NOT ONLY SUS. ARE THE POLICE AWARE OF THE PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECT ARREST HAS ON BLACK YOUTH?**



**7:84**  
THEATRE  
COMPANY  
ENGLAND

**SUS**  
BY BARRIE  
KEEFFE

.... election night 1979.... two detectives  
seemly await a Tory landslide while  
interrogating Delroy, a black suspect.... as  
results filter through Det.Supt.Karn heralds  
a new dawn for the forces of law and order..  
... Delroy's wife has been found dead in a  
pool of blood.... he is scoured to find  
himself more or less on a murder charge.

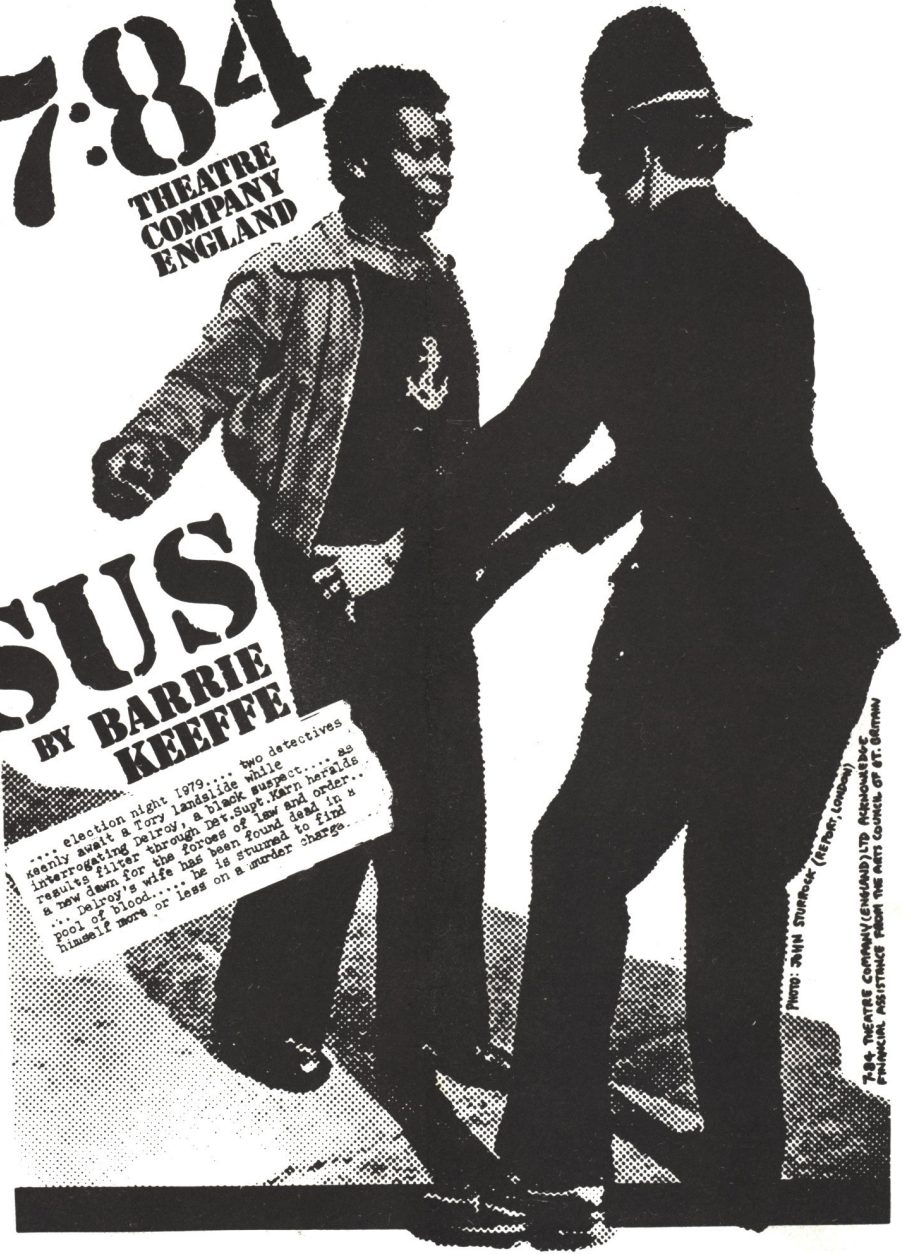


PHOTO: JOHN STURROCK (REFUGEE, LONDON)  
7:84 THEATRE COMPANY (ENGLAND) LTD. ACKNOWLEDGES  
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE ARTS COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN

7% OF THE POPULATION OF THIS COUNTRY OWN 84% OF THE WEALTH

7:84 Theatre Company (England) present  
their highly successful play about police powers

# **SUS** BY **BARRIE KEEFFE**

followed by a public discussion on

## **THE SCOTTISH CRIMINAL JUSTICE BILL!**

GLASGOW McLellan Galleries      Fri. 16 May  
ABERDEEN University

Arts Lecture Theatre      Sat. 17 May  
MUSSELBURGH Brunton Theatre      Mon. 19 May  
LARBERT Dobbie Hall      Thu. 22 May  
CUMBERNAULD Theatre      Fri. 23 May  
EDINBURGH George Sq. Theatre      Sat. 24 May

7.30 p.m. at all venues.

with guest speakers at each venue from

John Maxton M. P., Stephen Maxwell, Paul Gordon,  
Donald Dewar M. P., Bob Hughes M. P., Professor  
Robert Moore, Dr. Robert Baldwin, Robert  
Kilroy-Silk M. P., Ron Brown M. P., Martin  
O'Neill M. P., James Milne, Margo MacDonald,  
Robin Cook M. P., Dave Godwin and other speakers.

The Criminal Justice (Scotland) Bill which aims to "streamline"  
the powers the police have in persuading people to "help in  
enquiries" is currently before the House of Commons. The Bill  
proposes amongst other things -

- 1) The forcible detention of suspects without arrest, charge or  
caution, and with no right to legal advice.
- 2) Extended powers of stop and search.
- 3) The arrest without warrant of people 'obstructing' the police  
by withholding name and address.
- 4) The fingerprinting of detainees at the discretion of the police  
whether charges are to be preferred or not.
- 5) Trial in absence.

Many sectors of the Community are likely to suffer from these  
measures, but the difficulties of policing are not to be resolved  
by making lawful that which is presently unlawful and irregular.  
The police must not be above the law.



\* \* \* \* \*  
\* V I C T O R Y T O T H E H U N G E R S T R I K E R S ! \*  
\* P O L I T I C A L S T A T U S N O W ! \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

\* PUBLIC RALLY IN SUPPORT OF THE HUNGER STRIKERS \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

\* Saturday 25 April 1981 11.00 a.m. \*  
\* Acrehill Street Blackhill \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

\* FILM SHOW IN SUPPORT OF THE HUNGER STRIKERS \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

\* Wednesday 6 May 1981 7.30 p.m. \*  
\* Craigneuk Community Centre Wishaw. \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

\* \* \* \* \*  
30,000 people in Fermanagh and South Tyrone have cast their vote in favour of Political Status for the Irish Prisoners of War. This undeniable victory for Bobby Sands, H-Block Hunger Striker, shows the wholehearted support that exists in Ireland for the Hunger strikers in their struggle for Political Status. It gives the lie to the British government's claim that these people are criminals, isolated from the people.

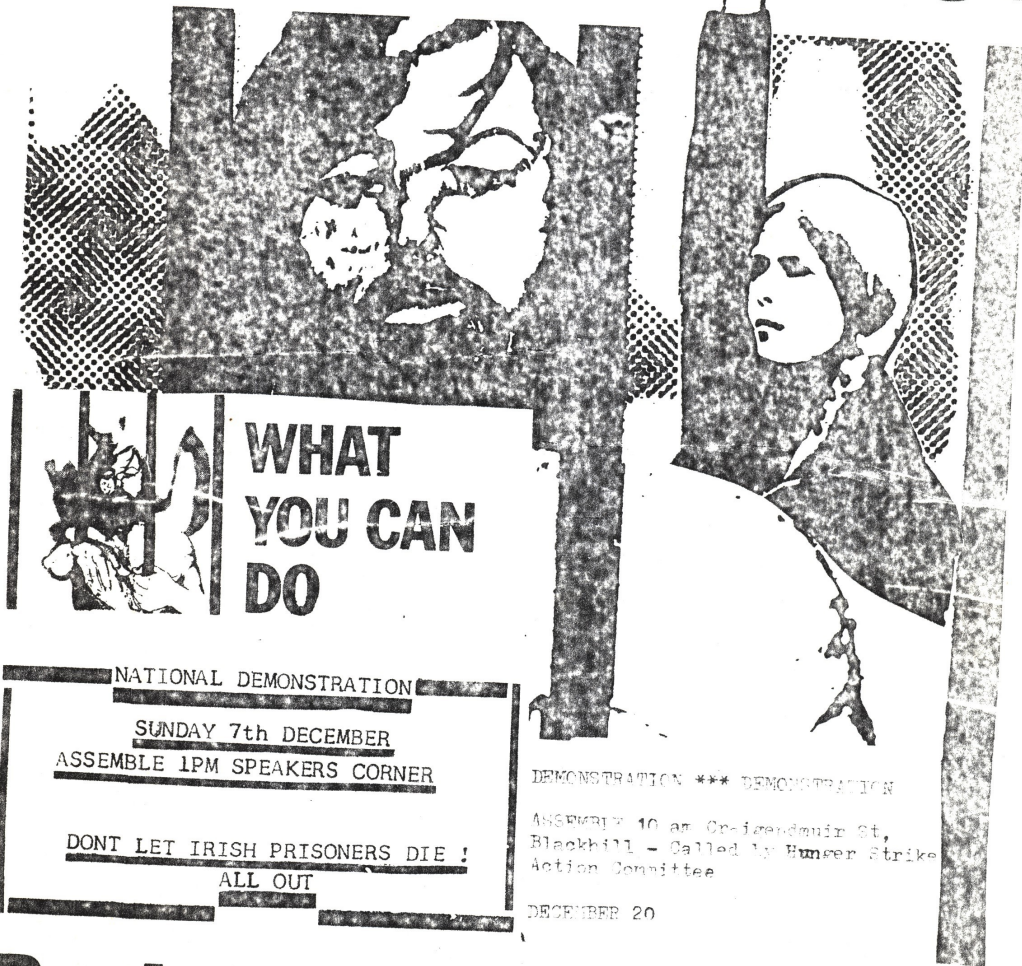
On March 1st. Irish Political Prisoners embarked upon a second Hunger Strike. The demand of the Hunger Strikers is clear - the right to be classified as soldiers of the peoples liberation struggle. In short they have but one demand - Political Status.

The Irish Hunger Strikers are prepared to sacrifice their lives. The Irish people and people throughout the world have shown their support for this struggle. We in Britain have a duty to make our voices heard in support of the Hunger Strikers. It is our duty to take the struggle onto the streets of Britain - the struggle for Political Status for the Irish Prisoners of War is the struggle of the working class and the oppressed throughout the world.

p&p Glasgow Hunger Strike Action Committee, box 15, First of May  
Bookshop, Candlemaker Row, Edinburgh.



# Don't let Irish prisoners die!



**WHAT  
YOU CAN  
DO**

**NATIONAL DEMONSTRATION**

**SUNDAY 7th DECEMBER**

**ASSEMBLE 1PM SPEAKERS CORNER**

**DONT LET IRISH PRISONERS DIE !**

**ALL OUT**

DEMONSTRATION \*\*\* DEMONSTRATION

ASSEMBLY 10 am Craigendour St,  
Blackhill - Called by Hunger Strike  
Action Committee

DECEMBER 20

## Restore political status!

at first of May Bookshop  
Candlemaker Row,  
EDINBURGH

*Published by the Troops Out Movement.*



# TROOPS OUT NOW!

The situation of the Irish prisoners of war in the H Blocks of the Maze prison Northern Ireland has entered a new and deadly phase. On Monday 27th October they began a hunger strike "to the bitter climax of death if necessary". They have been driven to do this by the continued refusal of the British authorities to recognise their political status.

## ARE THEY ORDINARY CRIMINALS?

The removal of 'special category' status in 1976 represented a determined shift in the policy of the British Government aimed at criminalising prisoners convicted by political methods of political offences. 90% of convictions under the non-jury Diplock courts in Northern Ireland are secured by "confessions" obtained under "inhuman and degrading" interrogation and they have a 94% conviction rate. The prison population has risen from 600 to 3,000 in the 11 years of British army occupation of the six counties. It is an awkward contradiction for the British Government that these 'ordinary' criminals are arrested, interrogated and tried under 'special' legislation.

## ARE THEIR CONDITIONS SELF INFLICTED?

In order to resist being labelled as common criminals the men in the H Blocks and the 40 women in Armagh Jail, also protesting for political status, have endured horrendous conditions at the cost of immense personal suffering. For the men these conditions have been imposed by the prison authorities because of the prisoners refusal to wear obligatory uniform. Their refusal to 'slop out' and clean their cells resulted from the enforcement of a new rule in the prison regime that prevented them going to the toilet unless they wore prison uniform. On Monday 27th October, the prisoners in the Blocks having decided they could endure these terrible conditions no longer, commenced their last desperate attempt to shift the intransigence of the British government.

## WHY A HUNGER STRIKE?

The prisoners see that not even the obscenity of the H Blocks will make the British Government concede their demands. They are asking for the right to wear their OWN clothes (not prison issue clothing, recently granted to all prisoners in the North of Ireland.) The right to refrain from prison work, the right to free association amongst other prisoners, the right to organise their own recreational and educational facilities, and for full remission of sentences. All of these rights are available to the 364 prisoners convicted before 1976 serving their sentences in the same prison as the protesting prisoners.

## WHAT CAN WE DO?

In 1972 'special category' status was granted because the hunger strike of the Republican prisoners in Belfast's Crumlin Road prison was accompanied by wide scale popular support for the prisoners demands. In this deadly phase of the prisoners protest we need to show the strength of our support for them in a unified fight for the five demands of the prisoners.

- 1) Support the National Demonstration in support of the prisoners Dec 7th 1pm Speakers Corner. Organised by the Ad Hoc Hunger Strike Committee.
- 2) Set up hunger strike action committees in your locality.
- 3) Organise public meetings. Contact 01-267 2004 for help on this.
- 4) December 10th International Human Rights day. Make this a big day of action in your localities.

The fight for political status has always been an integral part of the Republican fight against British presence in Ireland. Its legitimacy lies in the right of the Irish people as a whole to determine their own future. The troops out movement calls for an end to British presence in the North of Ireland and aims to make the crucial situation of the prisoners a central focus of its activity until the demands of the prisoners are granted.

# SELF DETERMINATION FOR THE IRISH PEOPLE!

# VICTORY TO THE BLANKETMEN! POLITICAL STATUS NOW!

Since October 27th Irish Republican prisoners in Long Kesh Prison in the Six Counties have been on hunger strike to win restoration of political status.

In their campaign to regain political status the prisoners have been forced to live in vermin-ridden, excreta-covered cells with only a blanket as clothing. Now, the intransigence of the British State has forced the prisoners to risk their lives on hunger strike.

The background to the hunger strike is the decision taken by the last Labour government in 1976 to withdraw political status from such prisoners, in an attempt to present the war in Ireland as one against common criminals.

The war in Ireland is not one against "terrorists" or "criminal psychopaths". The Provisional I.R.A. and the Irish National Liberation Army are organisations fighting for national freedom. That is why their members are entitled to political status.

It is vital for the working class on both sides of the Irish Sea that the British State is defeated in its attempt to criminalise the prisoners. A victory for the British State would be a morale-boost for the forces of reaction both here and in Ireland, and would be a serious blow to the struggle to end Partition which divides Ireland and its working class.

## SCOTTISH HUNGER STRIKE ACTION COMMITTEE

As each day passes the hunger strikers become weaker and closer to death. Urgent action is needed now if the blanketmen are to win their just demand for political status without loss of life.

The SCOTTISH HUNGER STRIKE ACTION COMMITTEE has been formed to organise and co-ordinate public activity in support of the Irish Political Prisoners. While the committee will campaign around the slogans 'Victory to the Blanketmen' 'Political Status Now', all organisations and individuals who in any way support the hunger strikers are urged to join and support the committee. Massive, united action is needed to ensure a speedy and victorious end to the prisoners' struggle.

We urge you to support any and all of the public activities below, raise motions in support of the hunger strikers in your trade union and/or political organisation or other bodies. Contact your M.P., write to the press. Make sure we make our support known. The prisoners are prepared to sacrifice their lives....we can sacrifice at least some time and energy!

## DIARY OF EVENTS

- NOV. 22ND - PUBLIC RALLY, EXCHANGE SQ. (off QUEEN ST.) 1.30pm (called by RCG)
- NOV. 24TH - PUBLIC MEETING, McLELLAN GALLERIES, SAUCHIEHALL ST. 7.30 (ditto)
- DEC. 7TH - DEMONSTRATION IN LONDON; COACHES FROM GLASGOW.
- DEC. 20TH - DEMONSTRATION IN GLASGOW, ASSEMBLE 10AM CRAIGENDMUIR ST. BLACKHILL.  
CALLED BY HUNGER STRIKE ACTION CTTEE. PENDING PERMISSION FILED.

R&P SCOTTISH HUNGER STRIKE ACTION COMMITTEE, c/o FIRST OF MAY BOOKSHOP,  
CANDLEMAKER ROW, EDIN.



# VICTORY TO THE BLANKETMEN! POLITICAL STATUS NOW!

We, the Republican Prisoners of war in H-Block, Long Kesh demand as of right political recognition and that we be accorded the status of political prisoners. We claim this right as captured combatants in the continuing struggle for National liberation and self determination. We refute most strongly the tag of criminal with which the British have attempted to label us and our struggle, and we point to the divisive partitionist institutions of the Six Counties as the sole criminal aspect of the present struggle.

All of us were arrested under repressive laws, interrogated and often tortured in R.U.C. barracks and processed through special non-jury courts where we were sentenced to lengthy terms of imprisonment. After this men were put in the H-Blocks and were expected to bow the knee before the British administration and wear their criminal uniform. Attempts to criminalise were designed to depoliticise the Irish national struggle.

We don't have to recite again the widespread, almost total forms of punishment, degradation and deprivation we have been subjected to. All have failed to break our resistance.

For the past four years we have endured their brutality in deplorable conditions - we have been stripped naked and robbed of our individuality, yet we refuse to be broken. Further repression only serves to strengthen our resolve and that of our female comrades enduring the same hardships in Armagh Jail.

During this period many individuals, religious figures, political organisations and sections of the media have condemned the way in which we have been treated. Yet despite appeals for a resolution of the H-block protest the British government has remained intransigent and displayed vindictive arrogance in dealing with the problem. They refused to treat this issue in a realistic manner which is just another reflection of their attitude to the entire Irish question.

Bearing in mind the serious implications of our final step, not only for us but for our people, we wish to make it clear that every channel has now been exhausted and, not wishing to break faith with those from whom we have inherited our principles we now commit ourselves to a hunger strike.

We call on the Irish people to lend us their support for our just demands and we are confident that this support will be very much in evidence in the coming days.

We call on all solidarity and support groups to intensify their efforts and we also look forward with full confidence to the support of our exiled countrymen in America and Australia and throughout the world.

We declare that political status is ours of right and we declare that from Monday, 27th October, 1980 a Hunger Strike by a number of men representing H-Blocks 3, 4 and 5 will commence.

Our widely recognised resistance has carried us through four years of immense suffering and it shall carry us through to the bitter climax of death if necessary.

Signed: P.R.O. H-Block Blanketmen Long Kesh Camp. October 10, 1980.

## NEC CONSULTATIVE PAPER

The National Executive Committee's Working Party on Northern Ireland has finally produced its consultative paper on the various options for Labour Party policy on Northern Ireland. But the long awaited paper is a great disappointment.

The background information is given in such a way as to invite its readers to adopt certain apparently inevitable conclusions; that the Labour Party should accept the partition of Ireland as irreversible and adopt suitable policies.

1. It looks at Northern Ireland in isolation instead of as something which concerns the whole of the Irish people.
2. It ignores the more profound structural problems of the Northern economy and the possible benefits of all Ireland economic cooperation.
3. It summarily dismisses views on the issue which have been propounded by important sections of the Irish labour and democratic movements. The call for a renouncement of the Unionist veto from these quarters is ignored.
4. Disproportionate space is given to consideration of such things as the British Labour Party extending its organisation to the North, integration into the UK and the creation of UK style local government bodies. The views of leading Irish Trade Unionists and CLP's who have opposed such integrationist moves are nowhere so consistently presented.

The paper takes the form of a number of questions in five sections. Glasgow LCI urge CLP's, branches and affiliated organisations to discuss this paper and to send in comment and resolutions. Below is an outline of the paper taking up some of the questions raised (or not raised).

### HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

While the paper says that N.I. became 'part of the UK following the 1920 Government of Ireland Act' it fails to mention the 1918 elections (75% voted Sinn Féin and for an independent Ireland); the Anglo-Irish war of independence; the Civil War; the fact

that the Irish were never consulted about the 1920 Act and the fact that the Act artificially created N.I. by dividing Ireland. Neither does it say why troops were sent in or who sent them. Space is found however to quote a 1973 referendum in which 99% voted to stay in Britain. (The poll was boycotted by the SDLP and republican and nationalist bodies-only 60% voted).

### QUESTION 1: THE ECONOMY

While giving some unemployment figures it does not mention continuing discrimination in jobs, housing etc. (see reports of Fair Employment Agency). The question on whether a gas pipeline should be built to N.I. seems to indicate a lack of grasp of how serious the problems are. It doesn't mention possible benefits for the economy resulting from re-unification.

### QUESTION 2: CIVIL RIGHTS.

Vagueness over whether the Fair Employment Act of 1976 has worked. (It hasn't-discrimination is as bad as ever) The attempts of the Agency set up under the Act have been thwarted by both Labour and Tory Governments e.g. in Jan. 1978, Labour Minister, Don Concannon acted to stop investigation into a General Motors subsidiary setting up in East Belfast which was clearly operating discrimination.

The claim that the Labour Government 'immediately' set up an enquiry into allegations of ill treatment in Castlereagh in 1979 is just not true. In fact allegations were being made for a long time before Roy Mason, under pressure set up the Bennet Committee with very limited terms of reference. It gives the impression that ill treatment, torture etc. no longer happen. And by asking how best a Labour Govt. can ensure Civil Rights it ignores whether civil rights can be ensured without a united Ireland and that Britain should be in there in the first place.

### QUESTION 3: HOW SHOULD THE PROVINCE (sic) BE GOVERNED?

It is because the basic socialist principle of the right to determine their own future, has been ignored, that the Irish people have had a British problem for many centuries. This section outlines various options



of which all but one accepts implicitly, Britain's right to be in Ireland and at all. It describes re-unification emotively as 'seeking approval for the expulsion of N.I. from the UK.' It ignores options put forward by prominent trade unionists in the south and, while giving the 'New Ulster Political Research group's' position (which is in fact a UDA front organisation), fails to mention Sinn Fein's option of four regional parliaments including one for the whole of Ulster (9 counties).

#### QUESTION 4: WHAT SHALL WE DO ABOUT SECURITY?

This section poses the questions in such a way as to make withdrawal of troops seem a position held by one or two cranks and the sensible thing to be gradual replacement of the Army by the police to get back to a normal situation. It ignores the totally abnormal nature of the Six Counties; the Special Powers Act of 1922; the sectarian nature of the RUC; it doesn't even mention the UDR; internment isn't mentioned or the role of the British Army in the North. It fails to state all the repressive measures contained in the Prevention of Terrorism Act and the ways in which it is used for harassment. On political prisoners it pushes the usual superficial line that the H-block conditions are self inflicted and that the only real reason that prisoners want political status is for the privileges that go with it.

#### QUESTION 5: TIME FOR A NEW PARTY?

Suggests an extension of the British Labour Party into the North. This would in fact represent a closer 'integration' of N.I. into the UK. There is no reason to believe that the Labour Party could begin to solve anything in the North, particularly since successive Labour Govts. have consistently ignored gerrymandering, undemocratic laws, police brutality and discrimination.

It is only when Britain withdraws from Ireland that there can be any chance of workers, small farmers etc, both Catholic and Protestant, north and south coming together on

common ground.

The aim of the British Labour Party should be therefore to disengage from rather than to become more deeply entangled in, Northern Ireland.

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We hope Labour Parties will take the opportunity the consultative paper presents to make comment and have discussion around this question and make sure their views are heard.

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#### HUNGER STRIKE

The Republican prisoners in H Block and Armagh jail have started another hunger strike. The concessions promised by the British Government have not been met, the Govt. refusing to implement the 'step by step' agreement on prison conditions that formed the basis for the ending of the last hunger strike. It is clear that this time deaths are almost certainly to occur. The fact that the demand of the new hunger strike focuses on political status rather than the five demands on conditions is an indication of the determination of the prisoners not to be fobbed off again with concessions that can later be withdrawn.

Although it will be more difficult than the last time to win support it is still crucial that support is won. \*Put resolutions to your labour party and/or union branch supporting the hunger strikers and protests in their support.

\* Hold meetings, rallies where possible to put the case.

\* start a campaign of letter writing to local press, trade union and left wing papers, putting the case which the media are trying to suppress.

#### LABOUR COMMITTEE ON IRELAND

will be holding a fringe meeting at the Scottish Council of the Labour Party Conference in Perth. Dennis Canavan, an LCI speaker and possibly another MP will speak. The meeting will be held at lunchtime on Sat. March 14th in 'Hal o' the Wynd' pub and will be chaired by Bill Day, Secretary of Perth Trades Council. Come along and hear the arguments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE 'LABOUR COMMITTEE ON IRELAND', WRITE TO: L.C.I. C/O 5 STAMFORD HILL, LONDON N16., AND YOUR MAIL WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE GLASGOW BRANCH.

# THEY ARE POLITICAL PRISONERS



Produced by the Labour Committee on Ireland (Glasgow branch)

In recent weeks supporters of the Labour Committee on Ireland have proposed, with varying degrees of success, motions in support of political status for Irish political prisoners. This leaflet has been produced to take up the main arguments we have encountered in proposing such motions.

## Aren't the prison conditions & the hunger-strike self-inflicted?

The hunger-strike is the climax of a 4 year old campaign for political status which began as a REACTION to the withdrawal of political status by the then Labour government. The different stages of the campaign have likewise all been REACTIONS to first moves by the British government & prison authorities, e.g. the 'blanket protest' resulted from the government trying to get the prisoners to wear a prison uniform, and the 'dirty protest' resulted from the warders throwing the prisoners' excreta into their cells and onto their mattresses. After 4 years of intransigence from Labour & Tory governments, the prisoners had only one weapon left to them: the hunger-strike to death.

## Aren't the prisoners being manipulated by people on the outside?

Kieran Nugent, the first person to go on the blanket, pointed out in an interview after his release: "The British are trying to say, in their terms, that the 'godfathers' are trying to use the men in the H Blocks.... But the prisoners understand the whole situation. This is a voluntary protest." And even the mass media in this country have admitted that the Irish Republican movement has continually argued against the launching of a hunger-strike. The 'people on the outside' have not only not manipulated the prisoners - they were even opposed to initiating a hunger-strike.

## How can you call for political status for a bunch of murderers and bombers?

This is the most common argument by far against motions calling for political status. It rests on a fundamental failure to understand both the nature of the struggle in Ireland and the nature of the Irish Republican movement. The violence in Ireland is political violence which inevitably results from the sectarian nature of the Six Counties statelet. Because that statelet is based on systematic discrimination against the imprisoned nationalist population, any struggle for basic democratic rights inevitably leads into a political struggle to abolish the sectarian statelet. And this is exactly what has happened since the mid-sixties: what began as a campaign for democratic rights within the framework of 'Northern Ireland' (the Northern Ireland Civil Rights Campaign) has grown, as it had to, into a political struggle to abolish the Border (the present struggle).

The main force in that struggle has been the Irish Republican movement. When the nationalist ghettos were faced with attack in the early seventies, the only organisation to respond to the population's call for armed defense was the Irish Republican Army. The goal of the Irish Republican movement, both its political & military wings, is an unmistakably political one: defense of the nationalist population in the North, abolition of the Border, and fulfill-





ment of Ireland's right to full self-determination. People may argue that some of the actions carried out by the Irish Republican movement have been counter-productive in achieving such goals. This, like everything else, is a matter for debate. But the key question is: is the struggle in Ireland a political struggle and is the Irish Republican movement a political movement? And to that question there can be only one answer: yes, 100% so.

Won't we lose votes if we support the hunger-strikers, or even just discuss Ireland?

Well, we didn't support the prisoners or discuss Ireland in 1979 and still managed to lose the election.

The Labour Party exists in a hostile environment: the mass media etc. are all controlled by the bosses or their state. The mass media are hardly going to argue what's in the interest of the labour movement with regard to Ireland (or anything else) - it's up to the Labour Party & the trade-unions to do that. We win support for socialist policies by campaigning for them - not by pandering to the wrong, often reactionary, ideas which people have picked up from the mass-media. And just as we refuse to be intimidated by the bosses' mass media over trade-union rights or economic issues, so too we should refuse to be intimidated over the question of Ireland, and instead actively campaign for policies in the interests of Irish & British labour.

Shouldn't we campaign for the restoration of a normal legal procedure in Northern Ireland, instead of campaigning for political status?

It's certainly true that the prisoners in Long Kesh & Armagh didn't go through a normal legal procedure: detained without being charged, physically & mentally tortured during interrogation, tried in a court without a jury, presumed guilty until proven otherwise, and often sentenced on the basis of a VERBAL confession which they allegedly made.

And it's equally true that we should support the abolition of such a 'legal system' and its replacement by a 'normal' judicial procedure (insofar as such a procedure is possible at all in the undemocratic, sectarian Northern statelet).

But that is in no way an alternative to the present fight for political status. And in any case, even a 'normal' judicial procedure would still end up sentencing people to spells of imprisonment. So the same question would then arise as now exists: are such prisoners entitled to political status?

Isn't the hunger-strike just a last-ditch effort by the prisoners due to the lack of any support for them?

In one sense the prisoners' hunger-strike is a final effort: all other methods of protest by the prisoners have failed in the face of the intransigence of the British government. But it is certainly wrong to claim that the prisoners' campaign lacks support. As 'Labour Weekly' (12.12.1980) itself points out: "Northern Ireland has seen its largest demonstrations for years in the past few weeks. The determination of the protesters and the breadth of the support for the hunger-strikers has surprised the authorities, not least in the Republic".

In Ireland tens of thousands have demonstrated in support of the prisoners and there has also been widespread strike action. Internationally there has also been massive support for the prisoners' demands: trade-unions & trade-union confederations in France, Australia, Italy, the U.S.A. and elsewhere have all backed the prisoners. So, far from lacking support, the hunger-strike has unleashed a massive display of international solidarity. The Labour Committee on Ireland believes that British labour too should follow the example set by such massive international solidarity and mobilise in support of the demand:

POLITICAL STATUS FOR IRISH POLITICAL PRISONERS.

For further information about the Labour Committee on Ireland, write to: L.C.I., C/O 5 Stamford Hill, London N.16., and your correspondence will be forwarded to the Glasgow branch of the L.C.I.



# Would You Support This?

While conditions for the workers in Britain get worse under a government which claims to be "socialist", another so-called "socialist" government is busy persecuting and exploiting its workers and those of other lands.

The Soviet Union in Lenin and Stalin's time was a bastion of socialism which resisted all attempts by capitalists everywhere to ruin this the cradle of worker's power. However it is easier to capture a fortress from within and today a small class of self-seeking profiteers having seized control of the soviet party and state are living off the backs of the workers.

## KNOW THEM BY THEIR ACTIONS

In words the soviet leaders stand for the interests of their people; in deeds it is a different story. Under socialism, consumer goods were produced for the exclusive benefit of the working masses who made up the ruling class and consequently kept prices low. Today, however, prices are very high and serious shortages in even essential products are commonplace. eg. The soviet journal 'Economic Review' has admitted that there is a serious shortage of good quality, cheap clothing. And while Brezhnev claims to be building 'communism' (which operates under the principle "From each according to his ABILITY. To each according to his NEEDS.") - the ex-wife of the poet Yevtuschenko boasts in the New York Times that she is a soviet millionaire!!! While women workers have lost equal pay with men soviet society now produces millionaires.

## WORKERS' STRUGGLES

In Chinkent ( in central asia) in 1967 dozens of workers were killed when tanks were used to suppress their demonstration against the beating to death of a taxi driver by the police. In Nov. 1967 at the Kharkov tractor plant thousands of workers went on strike over pay and conditions. While at a Kiev construction site in 1969 workers rebelled against their working conditions, attacking party and government buildings (some of them smuggled an account of this out to the west). 'Planned Economy' - a soviet publication - revealed absenteeism and go-slow tactics accounting for 59 million lost workdays in the Soviet Union in 1972. Disturbed by this the government set up "discipline committees" to stop wages and bonuses, welfare rights and empowered to sack workers for "violating labour discipline". It is claimed that unemployment does not exist in the Soviet Union, but Pravda has printed stories of people walking hundreds of miles in search of jobs. In one instance an average 200 came and went DAILY to a town looking for work. Of course if there is no unemployment these workers cannot be receiving any unemployment benefits.



### SO-CALLED "AID"

Meanwhile the soviet ruling class is scrambling for colonies in the third world under the guise of "the natural ally" of these underdeveloped nations. India received their much flaunted "aid" but discovered it could only be used to buy soviet goods priced 20-30% above world prices. India also had to repay the "aid" in raw materials valued 20-30% below world prices. 'Socialist' countries fare even worse at their hands: Cuba is now totally dependent on soviet purchase of their sugar crop and Polish workers have been shot down by soviet troops stationed in Poland for that purpose. The new czars have invaded Czechoslovakia (like Hitler), Ethiopia (like Mussolini), attacked China (like the Japanese fascists), while in their newly acquired colony of Angola they are shipping thousands of African youths to Cuba as slave labour for the sugar plantations.

Some people still claim despite all this the Soviet Union cannot be capitalist because there is no private ownership. However the nationalised industries in this country are not under private but state ownership and no one can say that the mines or the railways are anything but capitalist. It depends on whether the state is capitalist or socialist and the Soviet Union today is not run by and for the workers.

### WAR - WONGERS

The Kremlin is actively preparing for a war in which they hope to achieve world domination. They shout the loudest about peace and disarmament while assembling the largest armed force in the world. If their intentions are so peaceful why have they troops and warships all over the world? How can they possibly need a tank superiority of 3 against 1 in Europe for 'defence'?

They are international predators like Hitler, and like the nazis, they use fear and terror to suppress their own peoples. eg. Workers were thrown in mental hospitals for trying to set up an independent trade union as the existing ones have obviously ceased to represent their interests. Yet so-called 'communists' in this country support these actions of the soviet government and want to introduce the same thing here!

### UNITED RESISTANCE

It is our duty to expose this regime not whitewash it. Callaghan & Co. must be stopped from appeasing this monster and we must strive to build a united front against this the greatest menace of our time.

FROM THE WPS(ML), c/o VANGUARD BOOKS, 270 PAISLEY ROAD, GLASGOW G5 8NF (041-881-7413). Send 7P stamp for WPS manifesto, all information in this leaflet taken from 'How Capitalism Has Been Restored in the Soviet Union'. This and other literature available on request. READ SCOTTISH VANGUARD JUNE 1978



# DEFENCE AGAINST WAR

After the experience of two world wars in which Scotland alone suffered over 140,000 killed and many more maimed for life most people are concerned at the prospects of a Third World War. Some claim that over the past 20 years the likelihood of such a war has decreased and point to the many meetings and agreements between the Soviet Union and the U.S.A. as proof.

BUT THE 1930's ALSO WITNESSED ALOT OF INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS AND TALK ABOUT 'DISARMAMENT' AND 'PEACE'. HITLER AND HIS CRON-IES WERE PARTICULARLY TWO-FACED ABOUT TALKING PEACE AND PREPAR-ING WAR.

Since there has been no let-up in the Soviet-U.S. arms race, one can only conclude that all their various talks and treaties are only attempts to preserve their respective positions and spheres of influence.

## RUSSIAN IMPERIALISM THREATENS EUROPE.

Today the only possible explanation for many events in Africa, the Middle East and elsewhere is that the Soviet Union, partly by taking advantage of local disputes and popular move-ments, is challenging the pre-eminence in the world enjoyed by the U.S.A. since World War Two, and that this rivalry can ulti-mately lead not to 'detente' but only to war. What other pur-pose can such massive war production serve?

Two marked differences between the current situation and that prior to World War Two, then, are, firstly, that the Soviet Union is not pursuing a primarily defensive policy as it was then, but an increasingly adventurous offensive one; and, sec-ondly, that, apart from Russia itself, it is not the rivalries of the European powers themselves which is leading to war, but they stand in danger of being its prime targets.

THIS CERTAINLY INCLUDES SCOTLAND WITH ITS STRATEGICALLY IMP-ORTANT GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION, U.S. AND NATO BASES AND NORTH SEA OIL DEPOSITS.

## APPEASEMENT - FROM HITLER TO BREZHNEV.

Just as some influential people in the 1930's feared or 're-spected' Hitler, thought he could be made economically reliant on them through loans and investments, and tried to direct his aggression towards the U.S.S.R., so, nowadays, some people fear



or 'respect' the Soviet Union, think it can be made economically dependent on the West through loans and investments, and hope it will direct its aggression towards China.

Nor are parallels between Brezhnev and Hitler at all far-fetched - e.g. the incarceration of critics in mental hospitals including workers trying to form independent trades unions, the oppression of the non-Russian nationalities, and the use of a world-wide network of secret agents and supporters. This is not 'socialism', 'communism', 'internationalism' or 'Marxism-Leninism' but fascism - the result of changes in Soviet policy over the past two decades.

#### DEMOCRATIC DEFENCE.

To combat aggression and war we must resist the warmongers. Firstly, by the countries of Europe building up their own independent and integrated defence capabilities including training and fall-out shelters for all the people, and rejecting all policies which undermine the security of Europe.

Secondly, by co-operating with all other peace and freedom loving forces internationally, particularly the Third World countries in their struggle against exploitation and interference, and including the struggle of the peoples of southern Africa and Palestine for their democratic national rights.

Thirdly, by relying on the mass of the people whose livelihood, economic well-being and democratic rights must be respected. Thus the use of troops in Ireland or to do the jobs of striking workers, discrimination against immigrants and non-white citizens, and the denial of the people of Scotland and Wales' right to whatever form of self-government they desire, by exacerbating internal contradictions, play into the hands of the aggressor.

THE WORKERS' PARTY OF SCOTLAND (MARXIST-LENINIST) declares that, in this year of the 10th anniversary of the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia and the 40th anniversary of Munich, we stand ready to work together with all peace and freedom loving forces in a realistic approach to put off war by preparing our people against its outbreak. We would welcome comments on this question and any proposals for joint action.

From the WPS(ML), c/o Vanguard Books, 270 Paisley Rd, Glasgow G5 8NF (041-881 7413). Send 7P stamp for WPS Manifesto, full text of policy statement 'Defence Against War' etc. May 1978.

For the favour of publicity.

# 100th. ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF JOHN MACLEAN, 1979

On 24th. August, 1879, there was born in Pollockshaws, Clydeside, *JOHN MACLEAN* who was to become one of the most distinguished patriots of Scotland, a far-seeing internationalist and an uncompromising worker for and eloquent advocate of justice for the poorly-paid industrial workers, for the unemployed, for the badly housed and, not least, for a multitude of ill-fed and ill-clad children of his day.

*JOHN MACLEAN* resolutely opposed the 1914-18 war, and who today can deny that he was correct in urging that it was a great calamity for the peoples of all countries participating?

*JOHN MACLEAN* went to prison on several occasions for his principles and activities the many hardships arising from which led to his early death on 30th November, 1923, at forty-four years of age.

Today, people holding widely differing political and cultural views are at one in recognising the greatness of *JOHN MACLEAN* and are supporting the *JOHN MACLEAN SOCIETY* in promoting a number of important 100th. Anniversary commemoration events, to be inaugurated by a civic reception given by *THE CITY OF GLASGOW DISTRICT COUNCIL* in August, 1979.

These notes are for preliminary publicity to be followed later by a detailed programme. Also they are to invite individuals and organisations to write offering to be included in our commemoration list of supporters of a most memorable occasion.

On behalf of *THE JOHN MACLEAN SOCIETY*,

(Mrs) *NAN MACLEAN MILTON*,

Hon. Secretary,

Atholl Cottage,

Westfield,

By Bathgate, West Lothian,

Scotland.

-----Detach-----Here-----

To The John Maclean Society :-

I, personally \*/ My organisation wish to be included in the list of supporters of the commemoration of the birth of John Maclean:—

Name \* / Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ 1979

\* Organisation \_\_\_\_\_

( \* Delete as necessary)



# AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

**your questions  
answered.....**

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

B. DONNELLY

16 RUTHVEN STREET

GLASGOW.

Tel 041-334 8495

organized and wide support mobilized. Money may be sent to pay for a defence lawyer

two year campaign for his release



Donations should be sent to:

*Amnesty International Uganda Relief Fund*  
10 Southampton Street  
London WC2E 7HF

Amnesty International  
Please accept my contribution of £ .....  
to help you carry on your work.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

.....

Help us – to campaign for the release of men and women imprisoned for non-violent expression of their religious or political beliefs.

Help us – to campaign for the total abolition of torture and the death penalty.

Amnesty International, British Section,  
Tower House,  
8-14, Southampton Street,  
London WC2E 7HF.  
I would like to join Amnesty International and support your fight against oppression, torture and imprisonment of men and women for their beliefs.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

.....

Amnesty International is a world wide Human Rights movement with about 200,000 members in 107 countries. It is an independently funded, non-governmental organisation with consultative status at the United Nations (ECOSOC), and observer status with the Bureau for the Placement and Education of African Refugees at the Organisation of African Unity. Amnesty works impartially for the protection of men and women whose Human Rights are being violated in countries all over the world. It works, for example, for the release of its 'adopted' Prisoners of Conscience in over 90 countries.

Amnesty International's basic concerns in Uganda are:

1. The overthrow of the rule of law.
2. The extensive practice of murder, even massacres, by government security officers.
3. The institutionalised use of torture.
4. The denial of the fundamental human rights guaranteed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
5. The regime's constant disregard for the extreme concern expressed by international opinion and international organisations such as the United Nations.

If we do not condemn these gross violations of basic human rights in Uganda, we condone the notion that human rights can be violated with impunity.

APRIL 1978



# THIS BOY DIED



# IN UGANDA

He is one of the 150,000 victims of torture and killing in UGANDA since 1971 under President Idi Amin's oppressive military regime.

The eleven million people of Uganda go in daily fear of their lives. Help them through Amnesty International.



# AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

## PRISONER OF CONSCIENCE WEEK 15- 21 OCTOBER

**GEORGE SQUARE, 1pm MONDAY 16<sup>th</sup> OCT** STRATHCLYDE REGION VICE-CONVENER COUNCILLOR JAMES BURNS AND OTHER WELL-KNOWN PERSONALITIES WILL OPEN PRISONER OF CONSCIENCE WEEK WHEN 190 BALLOONS WILL BE RELEASED REPRESENTING THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE RELEASED WITH AMNESTY'S HELP DURING EACH MONTH OF 1978.

**STALLS** VISIT THE AMNESTY STALL IN BUCHANAN STREET PRECINCT FROM 11-0AM.- 5-15 PM. EACH WEEKDAY - LITERATURE, CHRISTMAS CARDS, BADGES ETC.

THERE WILL ALSO BE A STALL IN BYRES ROAD G12 ON SATURDAY 21<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER, IF PERMISSION IS GRANTED.

**EVENING OF MUSIC FILM AND POETRY** AN INTERNATIONAL EVENING WILL BE HELD AT TURNBULL HALL, 13 SOUTHPARK TERRACE G12 ON WEDNESDAY 18<sup>th</sup>. OCTOBER AT 8-0PM. ADMISSION FREE. COLLECTION IN AID OF AMNESTY. REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED.

**EXHIBITIONS** VISIT THE EXHIBITION IN THE CRYPT OF WELLINGTON CHURCH, UNIVERSITY AVENUE 11-AM.- 5-0PM. MONDAY TO SATURDAY.

MEMBERS OF GLASGOW UNIVERSITY UNION SHOULD MAKE A POINT OF VISITING THE AMNESTY EXHIBITION ON ALL WEEK IN THE UNION.

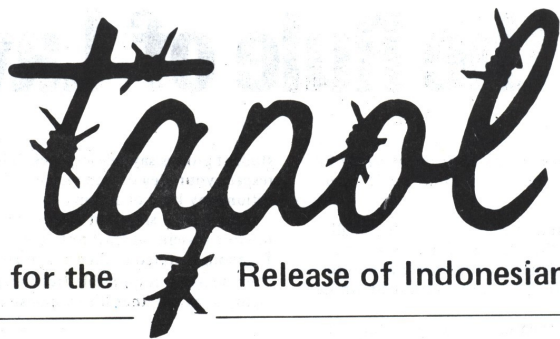
**IN STIRLING** THERE WILL BE A CONCERT OF CLASSICAL MUSIC AT VIEWFIELD CHURCH HALL, IRVINE PLACE, ON SATURDAY 14<sup>th</sup>. OCTOBER 9-15 - 11-0PM. FOLLOWED BY A MIDNIGHT VIGIL TO BRING IN PRISONER OF CONSCIENCE WEEK.

THERE WILL ALSO BE AN ARTS AND CRAFTS DAY ON SATURDAY 21<sup>st</sup>. OCTOBER 10-30AM. - 4-30 PM. IN ALBERT HALL, DUMBARTON ROAD, STIRLING

**CONTACTS : BRIAN DONNELLY ( 334-8495) GILL YOUNG ( 332-2160)**

**ANN TRANTOR (637-1998)**





## British Campaign for the Release of Indonesian Political Prisoners

TAPOL Bulletin No 27

June 1978

### EDITORIAL

# Bartering human rights

From the *New York Times* of 14 May 1978,

Summarising US Vice President Walter Mondale's visit to Indonesia:

*"Jakarta has been seeking authority to purchase a squadron of A-4 ground-attack bombers to augment its antiquated air force. The request has been held up on procedural grounds and was flatly opposed by human rights advocates in the State Department who felt that Jakarta should be compelled to release some of Indonesia's 20,000 political prisoners. Rather than make a final decision in advance, Mr. Carter asked Mr. Mondale to take soundings on the ground on both the plane request and the Suharto Government's attitude on human rights.*

*Once there, the Vice-President found that the planes were indeed important to the Indonesians and with a little gentle prodding they could be induced to accelerate the release of political detainees. Some hurried phone calls back to Washington and a few hours later, the Vice-President was given the discretionary authority to grant the plane request if he felt adequate progress could be obtained on human rights. More talks with the Indonesians persuaded him that this was the case. Shortly before he left, he announced the plane sale."*

This incident provides a perfect example of the crudeness with which the Western powers are pursuing their "human rights" policy in Indonesia. General Suharto's "attitude on human rights" is being judged solely on the basis of his willingness to accelerate prisoner releases. However, the issues involved in Indonesia are much more complex, particularly where weapons sales are concerned.

Since the beginning of the year the United States and Britain have considerably stepped up their arms sales to the Indonesian military. In February the State Department announced the sale of 16 sophisticated F-5 fighters. On 4 April British-Aerospace reported that it had concluded negotiations to sell 8 Hawk ground-attack planes. Then, in May the Americans agreed to sell the 16 A-4 bombers and to licence an M-16 rifle manufacturing factory in Indonesia.

Any protests about these deals have been answered with blithe assurances that human rights in Indonesia are improving. In fact, this is far from the truth: Peaceful student demonstrators have been brutally attacked on university campuses and a number killed. Their leaders have been arrested. The last semblance of press freedom has been snuffed out. W.S. Rendra has been detained. And the war in East Timor continues after two and a half years. These are not indications that the Suharto regime is acquiring greater respect for freedom and democracy.

It is certainly just that the tapols are receiving the attention of the American President after all these years, but in reality they have simply become pawns in cynical government bargaining over weapons of death. Warplanes have been bartered for political

prisoners without any concern for the bleak future that many of them face in resettlement camp. Indonesia's embattled democratic opposition has been forgotten. East Timor is ignored. One would think that Western leaders could not be so naive when it comes to human rights, unless they want to be.



Sculpture by tapol in Salemba prison

'Tapol' is an Indonesian contraction for 'tahanan politik' meaning political prisoner. It is still widely used although it was banned in 1974 because the military authorities said that all prisoners are 'criminals'.



# Yap on the Rule of Law

The following extracts and quotations are taken from an article by Henry Kamm which appeared in the New York Times on 16 April 1978:

"There are values in life more valuable than life itself," the small and frail lawyer said, quoting Gandhi. Mr Yap Thiam Hien is a member of the International Commission of Jurists and a hero to students and other opponents of the Suharto Government whose opinions he expresses.

Questions of human rights in Indonesia start closer to the bottom than the conventional view of rights in Western countries, such as the right to express divergent political opinions, Mr Yap said. The crux of the issue is the rule of law.

"It is the problem of poverty, to which is always attached the problem of illiteracy and law-unconsciousness. This is a question for, say, one-half of the people of Indonesia. I don't think I exaggerate that illiteracy or half-literacy affects about fifty percent of the population. These people will always be victims of people who have better educational, social and economic positions and who hold the power of law enforcement. For ages, these people have been subject to all kinds of extortion and oppression from their own chiefs in feudal times and now from the new feudalism.

"Guess how many practising lawyers there are in Indonesia. There are 500." (Indonesia has a population of 135 million.) About 2,000 trained lawyers serve as judges and 10,000 work for the prosecutor-general. Asked to explain the discrepancy, he replies: "As a prosecutor or a magistrate you have more access to the public pocket."

Summoned before Admiral Sudomo following eleven months in prison in 1974 (no charges were filed), Mr Yap was cautioned to stick to his profession and not meddle in politics. He used the occasion to urge the Admiral to release the other political prisoners who had been held with him. Most of them, about 150, had been caught in the round-up of tens of thousands of suspected communists following the attempted coup in September 1965.

"There was no justification for holding them, I told him, because only one or two were real communists and some others had never been interrogated." Arguing his case that there can be no human rights without the rule of law, Mr Yap cited such deficiencies in Indonesian legislation as an absence of habeas corpus or the right to bail, the unlimited right of courts to hold prisoners without charges or trial, and the lack of right to counsel except in capital cases. Most common-law defendants are tried without counsel, he said.

Mr Yap said that to institute the rule of law with a Parliament heavily controlled by the Suharto Government would require raising the political consciousness of the people, "but you won't get the freedom to do that. We're in a vicious circle. That's why some

student groups say talking doesn't help any more. They tell me, 'We respect your idea of non-violence, but we see as a last resort only action, any kind of action.'

"We have a situation where the Government is not inclined to tolerate dissent, at least not open. All human rights derive from this. Freedom is stated in the Constitution, but in the implementation they demand 'responsible freedom' and of course they reserve the right to say whether it's 'responsible' or not."

\* \* \* \* \*

## NEW KOPKAMTIB LEADERSHIP

Lieutenant-General Yoga Sugama, chief of BAKIN, the Intelligence Coordination Unit, has been appointed Chief-of-Staff of KOPKAMTIB. He will hold the two posts concurrently. This is the first time that the top executive posts in BAKIN, the main intelligence collecting agency, and KOPKAMTIB, the main security operational body, have been held by the same person.

KOPKAMTIB's former Chief-of-Staff, Admiral Sudomo, now holds the position of Commander of KOPKAMTIB concurrently with the position of Deputy-Commander of the Armed Forces.

Lieutenant-General Daryatmo who was appointed in March this year to succeed Sudomo as KOPKAMTIB Chief-of-Staff held the position for little more than a month. He has now been appointed concurrently Chairman of Parliament and Chairman of the People's Assembly. (He was not actually a member of either body but a presidential appointment, announced a few days previously, soon took care of that.)

The post of Deputy-Chief of BAKIN, made vacant by the appointment of General Ali Murtopo as Minister of Information in Suharto's new Cabinet, has now been occupied by Major-General Benny Murdani who will also be holding this post concurrently with his other position as Assistant for Intelligence Affairs at the Department of Defence and Security (Hankam). He has been Hankam Intelligence Assistant since January 1974 when he was recalled from Seoul, S. Korea, where he was Indonesia's Military Attache, to occupy the post.

## Military Role Grows Even Greater

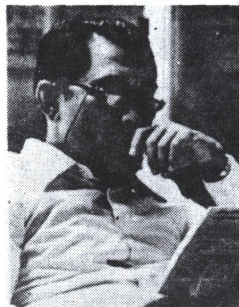
There are now more Army generals in charge of key ministerial posts than ever before. Ten of the twenty ministers with portfolio are Army officers by comparison with five in the previous cabinet. This is probably an indication of the narrowing basis of support for General Suharto who was elected to a third term of office as President in March. The number of generals now required to occupy ministerial posts probably also accounts for the growing tendency for senior positions to be held concurrently.

There may however be other reasons, as yet not clear, why the executive leadership of KOPKAMTIB, the body in charge of political prisoners, is now in the hands of Indonesia's intelligence chief. This may be related to KOPKAMTIB's future role in a situation where more and more security affairs are placed into the hands of the civil government, which in turn is being subjected to more direct military control.

The Jakarta weekly *Tempo* (20 May, 1978) reports on the reasons for this latter trend as follows:

According to Hankam sources, during the Third Five-Year Plan which commences next April, "all key areas of activity have to be safeguarded," they said. "The heaviest responsibility inevitably rests with the Armed Forces."

A similar tendency is reflected in the current spate of appointments of provincial governors, a high percentage of whom are already Army officers. *Tempo* (6 May, 1978) quotes a Hankam source as saying that it is Hankam policy "that strategic provinces must be headed by an Armed Forces governor although no-one will say which provinces are regarded as 'strategic'".



Benny Moerdani



Yogo Sugama



# More on the 1977 releases

Government spokesmen have repeatedly insisted during the past few months that all 10,000 prisoners released at the end of 1977 have been allowed home, that they have all been granted fully free status and that none have been sent to "transmigration" camps. They also insist that no pressure is being exerted upon them to go to camps. In confirmation of these claims, the Government has compiled a list of the names of the 10,000 prisoners in question. Some foreign embassies in Jakarta have seen this list but, as far as we know, no independent source has been able to check its reliability.

Information that has reached us in the past three months shows that there is a considerable discrepancy between government claims as set forth above and the circumstances in which many released prisoners find themselves. It shows also that these circumstances vary greatly from place to place. The most favourable have been reported in Jakarta. In other towns of Java they are far less favourable, and in the more remote places of Java they are even worse.

Before describing conditions, it should first be borne in mind that a distinction must be drawn between prisoners released in or back to the island of Java and those released in the other islands. Only 24% of the 10,000 were released in or back to Java (904 from prisons or camps in Java and 1,500 from Buru). Nearly 70% were released in the three islands of Sumatra, Kalimantan and Sulawesi. When plans were being publicised during the course of 1977 about the releases at the end of that year, it was always made clear that, at this stage, there would be no transfer from Java to camps. All the 16 new transmigration camps are sited in the other island for what is described as "local transmigration".

By the nature of things, conditions on Java are more easily accessible to independent verification: communications for outsiders are easier, independent relief projects are operating more widely in Java, there are more contacts available and the presence of foreign embassies and journalists makes it necessary for the authorities to give a good impression, especially in Jakarta.

## Conditions of Released Prisoners in Java

*Jakarta* All available information suggests that those released prisoners with homes in Jakarta have indeed returned home and have been granted fully free status. Some however are suffering from certain restraints, such as the requirement to report regularly to military offices. The Government's claim that released prisoners have been issued with normal identity cards has been proved false by a Dutch TV programme (Hier En Nu) which showed that the cards were indeed different.

Many released prisoners in Jakarta find themselves in desperate social and economic circumstances. Not only are they officially barred from obtaining employment in the state sector, the Armed Forces and in 'vital enterprises', but other companies are reluctant to take them on because they are required to report such appointments to the military authorities.

*Other Parts of Java* Outside Jakarta, conditions are far more restrictive, differing sharply from the claims made by the government. An ex-prisoner in Semarang released in December 1977 complains that he must have military permission to leave town. From the same area it is reported that ex-prisoners who were released earlier are suffering many more restrictions than those released last December: they must report themselves frequently, and in some places are required to perform compulsory labour and for as much as one week in every four.

From Malang (East Java) comes information that prisoners released last December have experienced very rigorous house-detention: Army officers check up on them frequently, and they are required to keep three log-books, one to record everything they do, one to record all visitors and one for the signature of the officer who checks up on them. A report has been received that prisoners released in Banyuwangi (E. Java) and Bali are still staying at their

places of detention. From other places, we have information that recently released prisoners may only leave home for medical treatment, to report themselves or to attend indoctrination courses.

## Outside Java

Hardly any direct information has been received yet from any of the other islands. According to information from South Sumatra, prisoners there (released in February this year, not December 1977) are still living in their places of detention. "Release status" apparently only means that they are permitted to go in and out of the camps but may not actually leave. Those wishing to return to Java have been told that they may only do so if they have a home to go to as well as a job. Many cannot comply with these conditions.

It has come to our knowledge that nearly 200 prisoners "released" in West Kalimantan are officially described as having gone to a "resettlement" camp in Ketapang, West Kalimantan. This camp was opened up in 1975, and the prisoners concerned have most likely been inmates there for some time.

A similar situation is likely to confront the 355 prisoners who were due to be transferred to the camp recently set up in Pararapak, near Buntok in Central Kalimantan. An article published in the Jakarta daily, Sinar Harapan (21 September, 1977) which was not available when the TAPOL report on forced labour was in preparation, quotes the Army officer in charge of this project as saying that "when construction of the project has been completed, KOPKAMTIB would issue full release papers to the inmates and hand over the resettlement project to the local government." (Thus, technically, the inmates will be 'free' permanent settlers just like those now in Ketapang.)

## Conclusions

If conditions on Java belie the claims now being made by the Government about the released prisoners, the gap between promise and reality must certainly be even wider elsewhere. These are the places where enforced "transmigrations" were originally planned for the 1977 releases, and the scant information that we have regarding South Sumatra and Kalimantan reveals that some at least of the camps are already being used to accommodate "released" prisoners.

Under these circumstances, it would clearly be quite wrong to accept government assurances that "all released prisoners have returned home".

*\*Treatment of Indonesian Political Prisoners: Forced Labour and Transmigration, published by TAPOL, February, 1978. Price £1.00 plus postage.*

## Chronology

of Human Rights Violations in Indonesia from June 1976 to May 1978.

This 28-page book was issued by TAPOL on the occasion of this year's IGGI Meeting. It details violations in all fields of human rights, from imprisonment to censorship, from the banning of films and songs to atrocities in East Timor.

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# Psychotests: Foreign scientists involved?

TAPOL has reported the use of "psychotests" on B-category prisoners to determine their political viewpoints. More information about these tests has now become available. Pulitzer Prize winning journalist Henry Kamm recently visited Indonesia, met with Admiral Sudomo of KOPKAMTIB and discussed the tests. The following is an excerpt from their interview, published in the *New York Times* on 12 April:

*Asked to describe the psychological test to be administered to detainees, the security chief said it took his organisation two years to develop. He said the result was a series of questions that gave a 70 to 80 per cent assurance of detecting communists.*

*Admiral Sudomo said the Indonesians who devised the test consulted psychologists in the United States, Britain and the Netherlands in the process but did not name any of them.*

*We asked CIA, 'Maybe you have some equipment to detect if he is a communist.' They don't have it.*

In an article on 26 April, Mr. Kamm discussed the "psychotests" at greater length:

*Explaining the testing procedure that he devised, General Sumitro (the major-general in charge of administering the psycho-tests) said five tests have been administered by a specially trained group of 200 assistants.*

*First came a basic intelligence test. Two others were tests not especially devised for Indonesia, including an American test, the Edwards Personal Preference Schedule. Its application to Indonesia's political prisoners, the general said, was to test the firmness of their convictions and motivation and their capacity to influence others.*

*"It shows us if they are good fighters," General Sumitro said. "If their score is high, that's bad for us."*

*The other test on political attitudes, was designed by Hans Jurgen Eysenck, the British psychologist. The degree of intensity with which Communist sentiments were held was scored on a scale ranging from "tough-minded" to "tenderness".*

*The two final tests were "thematic differentiation" tests especially devised for Indonesian conditions. General Sumitro declined to disclose what questions were asked.*

*He said the test scores were fed into a computer and supplemented with interrogation files and observations recorded about prisoners during their detention. This determined a classification into one of four classes, ranging from "diehard", through "not so hard", an even lower degree and, finally, category "zero".*

## EYSENCK DISAPPROVES

TAPOL contacted Professor Eysenck in reference to the use of his test for political purposes. His reply reads as follows:

*"I was not aware of the particular use of my tests which was mentioned in the newspaper clippings you sent me, and I was never consulted about their use. I would think it most unlikely that the test involved, which is one of social attitudes applicable only in Western countries, would give any sensible results even remotely applicable to the problem in question.*

*"I strongly disapprove of people being deprived of their liberty on purely political grounds, and I deprecate the use of my tests in this connection."*

Admiral Sudomo's admission that Dutch psychologists had been consulted during the process of preparing the two "thematic differentiation" tests has caused a furore in the Netherlands. The newspaper *De Volkskrant* reported on 24 April that the catholic University of Nijmegen had collaborated with Indonesian psychologists at universities in Jakarta and Bandung during the compiling of the questionnaires. The Dutch university denies that it was directly involved in the "psycho-tests", but it concedes that a government sponsored cooperative project with the Indonesians may have been of some assistance. The Indonesians who participated in the formulation of the tests included Dr. Fuad Hassan, Mrs. Sadli, the wife of the former government minister Mohamed Sadli, and a Dr. Marat who is at the University of Bandung and who is also the chief of security forces in West Java.

*continued on page 12*

## A story of ex-tapols from Buru

"... for Mr Tatang and Mr Sukatma, freedom has meant only another round of tribulations. Like many newly released prisoners here, they have been greeted not by rejoicing but by suspicion resulting from government rhetoric that for years sought to justify their detention."

Thus wrote Barry Newman (*Wall Street Journal*, 11 May 1978) shortly after US Vice-President Walter Mondale's visit to Indonesia during which he had assured President Suharto of America's "favourable reaction" to the December 1977 releases.

Barry Newman's report graphically describes the enormous problems faced by prisoners returning home after more than 12 years in prison without trial, which for many has meant long years of total separation from their families too.

"When he arrived at his tiny home in one of Jakarta's cramped villages, [Mr Tatang] discovered that his wife had long ago married someone else. Today, he sits with his friend Sukatma in an airless room at the Council of Churches seeking a few cents for bus fares. Mr Tatang is 46 years old, Mr Sukatma is 60."

Both were arrested in late 1965. "Like all the others, [they] were thought to have Communist connections. 'We were members of a labour union,' Mr Tatang says. 'It was supposed to be a front, I didn't know. To me it was just a union.' They were fired, and shortly afterward they were arrested. 'They told me I was implicated in the coup,' Mr Tatang says. 'They never told me what they thought I did.'"

Barry Newman reports that the two men spent three years in a prison in Jakarta and were then transported to Buru. "That was the

last either man saw of his family. Then for eight years, the two former clerks became subsistence farmers. 'There was enough food,' says Mr Tatang, 'but it was spiritually hurtful. My thoughts were always in Java.'

Mr Tatang was given no money on his release, writes Barry Newman. He doesn't have a job and his chances of finding one are slim. His confinement has left him with "bad lungs" and turns away every few minutes to cough convulsively.

"When they were healthy, the two were able to work on the fields on Buru and grow rice. If they were healthy again and could keep their freedom, neither would object at this point to going back. 'It is better,' says Mr Sukatma, 'than being destitute in Jakarta.'"

Mr Sukatma now lives with his wife and 16-year old daughter. His wife takes in laundry and in a good month can earn the equivalent of \$25. "With another mouth to feed, of course, things are more difficult. 'It's hard for someone who was never a prisoner to find work,' he says, 'let alone someone like me'. A relative tried to get him a position at a bus company but he was rejected. He tried for a job in the Jakarta city government and was rejected again. He is too old and 'people are afraid.'"

Mr Tatang, reports Barry Newman, "hasn't gathered the will to search for work. 'I'm sick. My arms hurt.' ... His aim is to open a cigarette stand ... but that requires \$250 and no-one is offering to supply it.

"There are men in my village who were never arrested," Tatang says "They have homes, They have pots and pans. Some of them have pensions. My life could have been stable. I could have had a pension too."



# 1978 Crackdown....

## STUDENTS KILLED

A number of students are known to have been killed during the attacks launched by troops against universities during the month of February this year. According to one source, two students were killed on the campus of Gaja Mada university (Jogjakarta) during the second of two armed attacks against the campus. One was a medical student from North Sumatra, the other a student from Solo. On the same occasion, eleven students who had been wounded were taken to the military hospital by ambulances.

This same source reports further: "The troops who laid into those Jogja students on 25 and 27 February'... (had recently come) back from East Timor. (There was) a lot of shooting. Kampong people were frightened, saying it was like 1965, you couldn't tell who would be next. On the first day of the shooting, 200-300 students had been listening to speeches in front of the office of the student publication, *Gelanggang Mahasiswa* — some students from UI (Jakarta's state university) and IAIN (School for Islamic Studies) were there as well as Gajah Mada students. At least four were seriously injured as a result of the shooting and clobbering. And two days later the behaviour was still rougher."

A Japanese free-lance journalist on a three-week trip to Indonesia, happened to be in Jogjakarta on the day of the first incident. He had heard that a meeting was in progress on the Gajah Mada campus, so he took a taxi and drove there. During this drive, he saw numerous armoured vehicles converging on the campus. He alighted from the taxi on arrival but was forced by troops to leave his camera behind. As he entered the campus, he saw the students, some 2,00 of them, being forced to disperse. He heard many shots though did not actually see any of the wounded in the melee. From information he was subsequently able to collect, he believes

that at least one student was killed in Jogjakarta, that twelve were killed during a similar assault in Surabaya and that one was killed in Bandung.

## CIVILIANS ARRESTED

The government's crackdown on its civilian critics has continued. During April and May a number of people were arrested, the most notable being W.S. Rendra, the poet and playwright (see the article in this bulletin). Also included in the detentions were Bung Tomo, a hero of the independence struggle against the Dutch, Dr Ismail Suny, the Professor of Constitutional Law who was detained in early January for telling a student gathering that a certain general (read Suharto) held savings of 330 million dollars in a Jakarta bank, and Mahbub Djunaedi, Moslem politician and former president of the Indonesian Journalists Association. In addition, Mr Sjafaruddin Prawiranegara, Sumarsono, the former editor-in-chief of the banned newspaper *Abadi*, Hardi Arifin, GPI treasurer, and Sholeh Iskander, Hardi's father-in-law, chairman of Yayasan Pesantren Pertanian Darul Falen and an adviser to a Dutch relief organisation, were arrested. Two teachers at Darul Faleh, Ir. Supriyadi and Ir. Sutisna were detained in Bogor.

A significant arrest was that of Haji C.J. Princen, the human rights activist. Mr Princen was arrested after a visit to the Netherlands during which he described the government crackdown to members of the Dutch Parliament. He has been detained on two previous occasions, once by President Sukarno and once by Suharto in connection with the Malari Affair.

Admiral Sudomo of KOPKAMTIB stated on 14 April that two hundred people were still in detention, and that sixty would be tried. Three cases have already been handed over to the courts.

## ....Letter from Jogjakarta

Dear. ....

... The most terrible things happened here in Jogjakarta. On two occasions, the Army handled students in an unusually brutal manner. As you can well imagine, we were powerless against bayonets, fire-arms and panzers. The military began to use their bayonets and to shoot at random. Just imagine 2,000 students fleeing in complete disorder — some crawling away on their bellies, some screaming hysterically as they fled, some falling to the ground. It was like a battle, like the Vietnam war.

The whole thing began on 25 February when an open meeting was convened to discuss the present situation and the corrupt state apparatus. Students came to this meeting in droves, there were thousands of them. Then the Army arrived. They closed all roads leading to the campus so that no-one could get in or out. With the university grounds completely surrounded, they then proceeded to break up the meeting by force. They closed in on the encircled students with their weapons: stabbing with their bayonets, firing their rifles at random, kicking students and throwing them to the ground. I think the soldiers shot downwards intentionally as there were bullet-holes just half a metre from the ground and some students were wounded in the legs and thighs.

On 27 February, the students gathered together again to hold a remembrance ceremony for those who had been wounded and shot. On this day too, the Army behaved with ferocious brutality. Anyone who happened to be on the campus faced the danger of being picked up and thrown into one of the waiting Army trucks. The military had brought huge equipment right into the faculty premises. They were determined to remove every single student from

the buildings. They made no attempt to talk first with the students so as to persuade them to leave the buildings voluntarily. They forced their way into the buildings and shot at anyone they came across. There was a terrible onslaught. Students were attacked by panzers and tanks. On that day, the guns spoke.

On 28 February, the Rector closed down the University. Those students who had been arrested were very roughly treated by the military. It is incredible to think that the military claim to be the defenders of the Panca Sila. Some of the students were forced to do thirty push-ups while sustaining blows on their hands and feet. One of my friends said that he was violently tortured. One soldier was particularly vicious. He asked one of the students: "What colour is your blood, red or brown?" When the student replied, "Red", the soldier struck him on the head, making him bleed. Then he said, "Yes, you're right, it's red." He scooped up some of the blood and smeared it onto the head of another student.

Often, students were asked to say where they came from. Those from places other than Java were especially brutally treated.

There are many more stories circulating about the brutalities perpetrated by the military. Many students were arrested and the arrests are still continuing. The newspapers do not dare to report anything about student actions any more. All student newspapers have been banned. We get news now only from illegal leaflets and pamphlets. According to these reports, two students were killed during the demonstrations held on the Gajah Mada campus; twenty-five were wounded and some hundreds were arrested. ....

Jogjakarta, 16 March, 1978



# Rendra arrested

## Poet, Playwright, Director, Actor

W.S. Rendra, one of Indonesia's most outstanding artists, was arrested in Jakarta on 1st May. His arrest came three days after a poetry reading at which he recited 15 of his own poems under the title, *Pamphlet*. Despite attempts to disrupt the performance by unknown assailants who threw teargas bombs into the auditorium, Rendra continued with his readings to the enthusiastic response of an audience of more than 2,500 which filled Jakarta's Ismael Marzuki Art Centre (TIM) open-air theatre to over-flowing.

A spokesman for the Jakarta Military Command which arrested Rendra made it clear that the poetry reading and the general content of Rendra's work were the reasons for his arrest. "Such stuff can lead to unrest and social conflicts. It gives people the wrong picture of the results of development," said Lieutenant-Colonel Anas Malik, Public Relations Officer of the Jakarta Military Command. (*Tempo*, 13 May 1978) Admiral Sudomo, Commander-in-Chief of Indonesia's all-powerful security command, KOPKAMTIB, commenting on the arrest, described Rendra's poems as being "full of incitements".

The Jakarta weekly *Tempo* also reports that Rendra was asked by his military interrogators: "Why did you continue with the programme even though people had thrown (teargas bombs)?" Rendra replied: "Because I felt that I was within the law. They are the ones who should be arrested."

## Years of Harassment

Rendra has been one of Indonesia's most popular poets and playwrights for a number of years. He also directs his own Theatre Workshop in Jogjakarta, Central Java. Many of his productions have been banned by the military authorities there, the best known being a play entitled *Mastodan dan Burung-Burung Kondor* which depicted oppression in a fictitious South American country. Others banned have included a rendering in Indonesian setting of *Oedipus Rex*.

Faced with the heavy hand of local military censorship in Jogjakarta, Rendra has been compelled to stage most of his plays at the Ismael Marzuki Art Centre (TIM) in Jakarta.

Rendra was one of 14 intellectuals and artists who signed a statement on 24 January this year protesting against the arrest of students and the closure of seven newspapers four days earlier. The seven papers were only allowed to resume publication two weeks later after accepting a number of restrictions. These included a ban on publishing any statements by a number of personalities, among whom was Rendra.

## Warning to Jakarta's Art Centre

Rendra's arrest is also clearly intended to be a warning to the Jakarta Arts Centre, (TIM). Said the Jakarta Military Command spokesman: "It (Rendra's arrest) is also intended to make the TIM management realise that the Centre is not like Hyde Park, a place where people can attack others. . . . Don't try to use art as a means of opposition to the government." (*Tempo*, 6 May 1978).

TIM was opened in 1968 and has been supported by a subsidy from the Jakarta Municipal Government. During the term of office of Jakarta's former governor, Ali Sadikin, TIM enjoyed considerable freedom of expression and became a centre for much creative activity and debate in many areas of culture. Ali Sadikin became a very popular figure, quite independent of the Army (he was himself of the Naval Marine Corps). He was replaced as Jakarta's governor in 1977.

## Film Banned

Soon after Rendra's arrest, the Jakarta Military Command announced a ban on the showing of a new film entitled *The Young in Love* in the capital. The ban came as a complete surprise to the film's director, Syuman Djaya who had already made cuts in the film at the

request of the Board of Censors and had received a Board certificate for its distribution.

Rendra plays the leading role in the film which describes the conflict between a young man and his disciplinarian father. The film commences with shots of Rendra (playing himself) reciting poetry in a university campus. This must clearly be the reason why the film was banned for public showing although a Jakarta Military Command spokesman said that the ban had been imposed because "the film accommodates communist revolutionary theory and ideas of contradiction which are banned in Indonesia".



## POETRY BY W.S. RENDRA

### From *The Right to Oppose*

Opposition is the window  
Through which we see one another.  
Without opposition there is frustration;  
Without opposition you are estranged from us;  
Without opposition you see only the false images  
Of your own distorting glass;  
Without opposition you are locked  
In the lonely cycle of masturbation.

### From *Pamphlet*

I have written this pamphlet because  
The voice of public opinion has become shrouded in cobwebs.  
Men speak in riddles  
And rumour has assumed the guise of truth. . . . .  
If critics are allowed to speak  
Only through official channels,  
Life will lose its savour –  
Like vegetables without salt.  
I have written a pamphlet because  
Pamphlets are not taboo for poets.  
I want to speak through messenger pigeons;  
I want to use my hands as semaphors;  
I want to use the smoke signals of the Indians.  
I can see no reason to remain silent –  
To do nothing.

### PRAYER OF THE HUNGRY

Hunger is a smooth black crow  
Millions of crows  
like a black cloud.  
Oh God!

How terrifying the crows are.  
And hunger is black crow.  
Continually terrifying.  
Hunger is rebellion.  
Is the mysterious force  
moving the murder's knife  
in the hands of the poor.  
Hunger is the coral rocks  
beneath the sleeping face of the sea.  
Is tears of deceit  
Is the betrayal of honor.  
A strong young man crying  
to see his own hands  
lay honor down  
because of hunger.  
Hunger is a devil.  
Hunger is a devil offering dictatorship.  
Oh God!

Hunger is black hands  
putting handfuls of alum  
into the stomachs of the poor.  
Oh God!  
We kneel.  
Our eyes are your eyes.  
This is your mouth.  
This is your heart.  
And this is your stomach.  
Your stomach hungers, Oh God.  
Your stomach chews alum  
and broken glass.  
Oh God!  
How nice a plate of rice  
a bowl of soup and a cup of coffee would be  
Oh God!  
Hunger is a crow.  
Millions of black crows  
like a black cloud  
blotting out my view  
of your heaven.

W.S. Rendra  
Indonesia

# International campaign for Rendra's release

A group of distinguished artists and scholars have made a public appeal to the Indonesian Government for the immediate release of W.S. Rendra. The appeal is made in a letter published in *The Times*, London, on 10 June, 1978 and is signed by Sir Richard Attenborough and John Schlesinger, foremost British film directors, Arnold Wesker, the playwright, Janet Suzman, one of Britain's leading actresses, David Caute, the poet, and Ruth McVey, a leading scholar in Indonesian studies.

### The Letter states:

"Indonesia, a country that has been holding tens of thousands of political prisoners without trial for over 12½ years, is at it again. We have heard with dismay of the arrest recently of one of the country's foremost poets and playwrights, Mr W.S. Rendra. This artist is as yet little known in the outside world but he has become popular in his own country."

After describing the ways in which Rendra has been harassed and the circumstances of his arrest, the letter concludes with the following appeal: "May we, through your columns, urge the Indonesian Government to release Mr Rendra without delay and to end its policy of repressing human rights."

### British Writer's Appeal

The well-known British writer, Stan Barstow, has also made an appeal for Rendra's release. In a letter addressed to President Suharto, he writes:

"As an English writer, I was privileged to take part in a seminar with Rendra, and other overseas visitors, in Melbourne, Australia in October 1972. Reading again now the work Rendra read to his appreciative audience on that occasion confirms the opinion I formed then: that he is a most distinguished writer whose work is infused with a deep and abiding concern for his fellow men and women – a writer whom his country should be proud to honour rather than repress."

In addition the Writers' Guild of Great Britain has sent a cable to the Indonesian Ambassador in London protesting about Rendra's arrest and calling for his immediate release.

### International PEN Cables Suharto

International PEN's Congress, held in May this year, sent the following cable to President Suharto:

*Delegates to the Congress of International PEN, world-wide*

*continued on page 12*



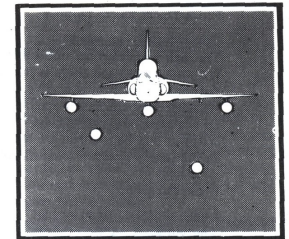
# British MPs reject warplanes deal

An Early Day Motion calling for the cancellation of a deal concluded in April this year by British Aerospace to sell eight Hawk ground attack/trainer aircraft has been tabled in the House of Commons. This motion is part of activities being undertaken by a number of Members of Parliament. Many have also written to the Foreign Office and Ministry of Defence expressing concern over the deal.

The Motion reads as follows:

*This House calls for the cancellation of the contract signed between British Aerospace and Indonesia for the sale of eight Hawk ground attack/trainer aircraft, and urges that no export licence should be issued and that there should be a total embargo on arms sales to Indonesia, especially in view of the war of conquest that Indonesia is waging against the people of East Timor who have been denied the right of self-determination and also against the people of West Irian, and the tens of thousands of political prisoners in detention in Indonesia.*

Up to the time of going to press, 23 Members of Parliament had signed the motion, with more signatures still coming in.



## Hawk Campaign

The TAPOL campaign against the sale to Indonesia of British Hawk fighter-bombers continues. A number of Labour Party Constituency parties have sent emergency resolutions to the NEC of the Labour Party condemning the sale of the planes. They have called upon the Foreign Secretary to stop the deal by refusing to authorise the export licenses. Many more GMC's will be considering the issue at their June meetings. Readers who are GMC delegates should make sure that their party passes a resolution.

## International Red Cross resumes Tapol visits

An International Red Cross (ICRC) mission went to Indonesia in January this year to resume visits to prisons and camps where political prisoners are held. This came after a breakdown last year when the ICRC refused to continue visits because of the unsatisfactory arrangements made for its mission in early 1977 (see *TAPOL Bulletin* No. 21, April 1977).

The resumption of visits follows negotiations between the Indonesian Government and the ICRC on the terms of future visits. It is apparent that Western governments, notably the US Government, were anxious to ensure that ICRC visits would resume.

According to the *ICRC Review* (March-April 1978), the mission had visited nine places of detention by the end of February 1978. We have heard from independent sources that it was scheduled to visit Nusakambangan prison island from 9-16 April.

As is normally the case, it is not expected that the ICRC will publish any of its findings.

### ICRC Refused Access to East Timor

ICRC efforts to obtain permission to visit East Timor have however not been successful. The Red Cross had been carrying out activities in that country during 1974 and 1975 but was refused access following the Indonesian invasion in December 1975.

Michael Richardson, writing in *The Melbourne Age* (8 May, 1978), reports that "informed sources who have followed closely the negotiations between the ICRC and Indonesian authorities on this sensitive subject say Jakarta has made it clear that resumption by the ICRC of its traditional work of visiting prisoners and extending assistance to the civilian population is out of the question."

Richardson describes Indonesia's attitude as "a direct rebuff" to both the US and Australian Government which have sought the return of the ICRC to East Timor.

## IGGI meeting approves more credits

The 1978 meeting of the Inter-Governmental Group on Indonesia, held in Amsterdam in May, approved a total of no less than US \$2,500 million in credits for Indonesia for the financial year commencing on 1 April this year.

This amount exceeds the sum approved last year by 25% and, according to David Jenkins, writing in the *Far Eastern Economic Review* (9th June, 1978) "will take Indonesia's foreign debt to a whopping US \$13 billion, not including Pertamina's contingent liabilities". "As a result", he continues, "the country's debt service ratio (the proportion of foreign earnings required to repay foreign debts) which now stands at around 16%, will rise in a few years' time to almost 20%, the generally accepted 'danger' level."

The 1978 IGGI total will be supplied from the following sources:

- \* IGGI member governments will provide \$850 million. The largest contribution will come from Japan (\$256 million) followed by the USA (\$186 million) and West Germany (\$123 million).
- \* International agencies will provide \$800 million. \$600 million of this is from the World Bank and the rest from the Asian Development Bank
- \* Countries in the Middle East and East Europe will provide a total of \$100 million.
- \* The remaining \$750 million will be covered by borrowing from private banks on commercial terms.

# Warplanes Through The Looking Glass

The following statement is excerpted from the 15 February 1978 testimony of Professor Benedict Anderson before the House of Representatives Subcommittee on International Organizations:

1. The major formal invasion launched by the Suharto regime took place on December 7, 1975, one day after President Ford and Secretary of State Kissinger visited Jakarta. We have yet to see any evidence that either of them expressed any real concern at this open act of aggression, carried out, as two prominent State Department officials have confessed, essentially with American weapons — a clearcut violation of the U.S.-Indonesian bilateral arms agreement of 1958.

2. In March 1977, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Robert Oakley declared that the East Timor situation had "caused us problems and anguish for a period certainly of a year and a half now". (A year and a half dates the anguish back to October 1975, well before the overt Indonesian invasion; note that the unselfconscious use of the word "us" shows Mr. Oakley's complete identification of the Ford and Carter administrations' policies). He went on to say that:

In order to insure that the U.S. was in compliance with the applicable statutes and make good our warnings prior to December 7 about the use of U.S. military equipment, we suspended administratively the provision of additional security assistance. This suspension lasted about 6 months.

This excerpt is from an exchange between subcommittee chairman Donald Fraser and representatives of the Departments of State and Defense:

MR. OAKLEY. However there are some things which Mr. von Marbod has researched very thoroughly and we will put them in the record, some of which referred to by M. Anderson, which did go through the pipeline.

If you recall, our statement was: A policy review was initiated to insure that we are in compliance with applicable standards while reviewing the matter, although military equipment already in the pipeline continues to be delivered. And that was a quotation from General Fish about no new arms, arms which Mr. Anderson cited, and we will enter into the record these eight items of spare parts which did go in one way or another during this period.

MR. FRASER. That is, there was an agreement to sell during this period, a new agreement?

MR. OAKLEY. There were offers made, and there were acceptances. Excuse me, Erich, would you like to speak briefly to that?

MR. VON MARBOD. That is correct, Mr. Chairman, there were transactions during that period of time, the time of the administrative suspension, or as it was referred to, and with your permission I would like to submit that for the record to clarify the issue.

MR. OAKLEY. It wasn't anything that was done deliberately; had there been a deliberate attempt to get around the freeze, that would be a different thing. But, in any event, there were some things that slipped through, and we would like to put it in the record.

MR. FRASER. Was this a matter of slipping through in violation of the policy or what?

MR. VON MARBOD. I would say this, Mr. Chairman: That the actions of the Department of Defense, of course, were all subject to the review of the Department of State. My research indicates that these transactions had been reported to the Department of State; the Department of State was aware of it. My review also indicates that there was some confusion during that period of time as to what the true situation was, and for that reason I would like to volunteer a statement for the record of the transactions that took place during that period of time.

MR. FRASER. Could you go a bit further and give us any kind of documentation as to exactly what the policy was then? General Fish had indicated there was a 6-month administrative suspension.

MR. VON MARBOD. Yes, sir, it is in the previous hearings.

MR. FRASER. I mean if there are any documents of the Department of State that would indicate precisely how the matter

Lt. Gen. Howard Fish, Director of the Defense Security Assistance Agency, told this committee on March 23, 1977 that "what we did was stop processing (military sales) . . . we stopped processing new requests (for arms). This committee subsequently learned, however, that the Indonesian government was never informed that any such suspension had taken place. If we are curious as to why the Indonesians never felt the force of the U.S. government's "anguish", the answer is quite simple. In flat contradiction to express statements by General Fish, Mr. Oakley and Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Richard Holbrooke, at least four separate offers of military equipment were made to the Indonesian government during the January-June 1976 "administrative suspension." This equipment consisted mainly of supplies and parts for OV-10 Broncos, Vietnam War era planes specially designed for counter-insurgency operations against adversaries without effective anti-aircraft weapons, and wholly useless for defending Indonesia against a foreign enemy. The policy of supplying the Indonesians equipment has continued without substantial change from the Ford through the present Carter administrations.

was formulated. Is it correct it was over \$1 million in spare parts that were offered and accepted during that 6-month period?

MR. VON MARBOD. That is accurate Mr. Chairman.

MR. FRASER. And it seems to have been largely for the Bronco airplane?

MR. VON MARBOD. That is correct, Mr. Chairman.

MR. OAKLEY. There were a number of things.

MR. VON MARBOD. There were a number of items, primarily administrative support items.

MR. FRASER. The impression I have is that not only were the offers and acceptances made but that so-called implementation came quite rapidly, considering how rapidly government usually functions.

MR. VON MARBOD. I don't know whether that would be a fair statement, Mr. Chairman. Again, I was not here at the time. My research is based on dates and documents that I could find in the file. Some of the documents were, in fact, in the hands of the Indonesian Government and had been offered prior to the suspension.

MR. OAKLEY. We will give you a letter for the record on that, sir, between the State Department and the Defense Department in order to clarify a point on which we inadvertently misled you last year without anyone's knowing.

MR. FRASER. I am not so concerned about being misled as to whether—

MR. OAKLEY. I am.

MR. FRASER. It goes beyond that. I know that we can be given information from time to time which people believe to be right and turns out it isn't, but I am really more concerned as to what the underlying policy really was.

MR. VON MARBOD. I find in my review, Mr. Chairman, that there were meetings, there was oral guidance given to the Department of Defense, but the best thing I can do is provide the audit trail on the actual transaction.

MR. FRASER. Can you also provide us with whatever policy directives there may have been?

MR. VON MARBOD. Yes; in consultation with the Department of State, we will certainly provide that for the record; be pleased to.

MR. FRASER. It would be quite helpful. Because the more we learn about it, the more that suspension turns out to have been of no consequence. We were told, I think, Indonesians were never



# PARTIZANS

PEOPLE AGAINST RIO TINTO ZINC AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES c/o 218 Liverpool Road, London N.I.

TEL: (01) 609 1852

Dear Comrades,

I am writing to tell you about the  
WEEK OF ACTION on RIO TINTO ZINC (May 4-11).

The WEEK is the initial focus of a long-term  
transnational campaign against multinational corporations.  
[see enclosed ~~green~~ sheet].

RTZ is the world's largest diversified metals' producer.  
It was targeted because of its involvement in nuclear fuel  
production (26% of world uranium) + the violation of human  
(including land) rights of third + fourth world peoples.  
RTZ has been called "the mining arm of the British  
government". More appropriately, successive British governments  
might be termed the political arm of RTZ. The State  
protects RTZ against UN resolutions + decrees on Namibia,  
against criticism for its operations in South Africa, +  
its operation of a mammoth uranium price fixing cartel  
which helped 'up' the price of uranium fourfold during  
the 1970's. RTZ has been the most attacked of British  
companies but so far the attack has been relatively

**Week Of Action MAY 4-11**

unco-ordinated. The WEEK intends to reverse this.

It consists of a number of decentralised events & actions (public meetings, films, pickets, demo's & direct action) by over 30 groups (nuclear disarmament/anti nuclear/peace/Third World/Anti-Apartheid etc) in 15 cities throughout Britain, & in New Zealand & Bremen (West Germany). The climax to the WEEK is a Tribunal at Conway Hall, London WC1 on May 10, preceded by Workshops & films on the 9<sup>th</sup>. At the Tribunal, representatives of native peoples who are victims of RTZ's activities will testify before a 'jury' of shareholders delegated by Universities, Churches, Unions etc. - RTZ has been invited to answer criticisms (!)

The Tribunal is the first time that victims of the operations of a multinational have testified against it, the WEEK is the start of an attack on corporate power & also attacks the nuclear chain as the hitherto neglected producing end.

Please give the WEEK publicity & if possible, your support. Contact PARTIZANS for information about people/groups near you who are involved. We have posters, badges & background material available.

Yours in struggle,

Andrew Peel

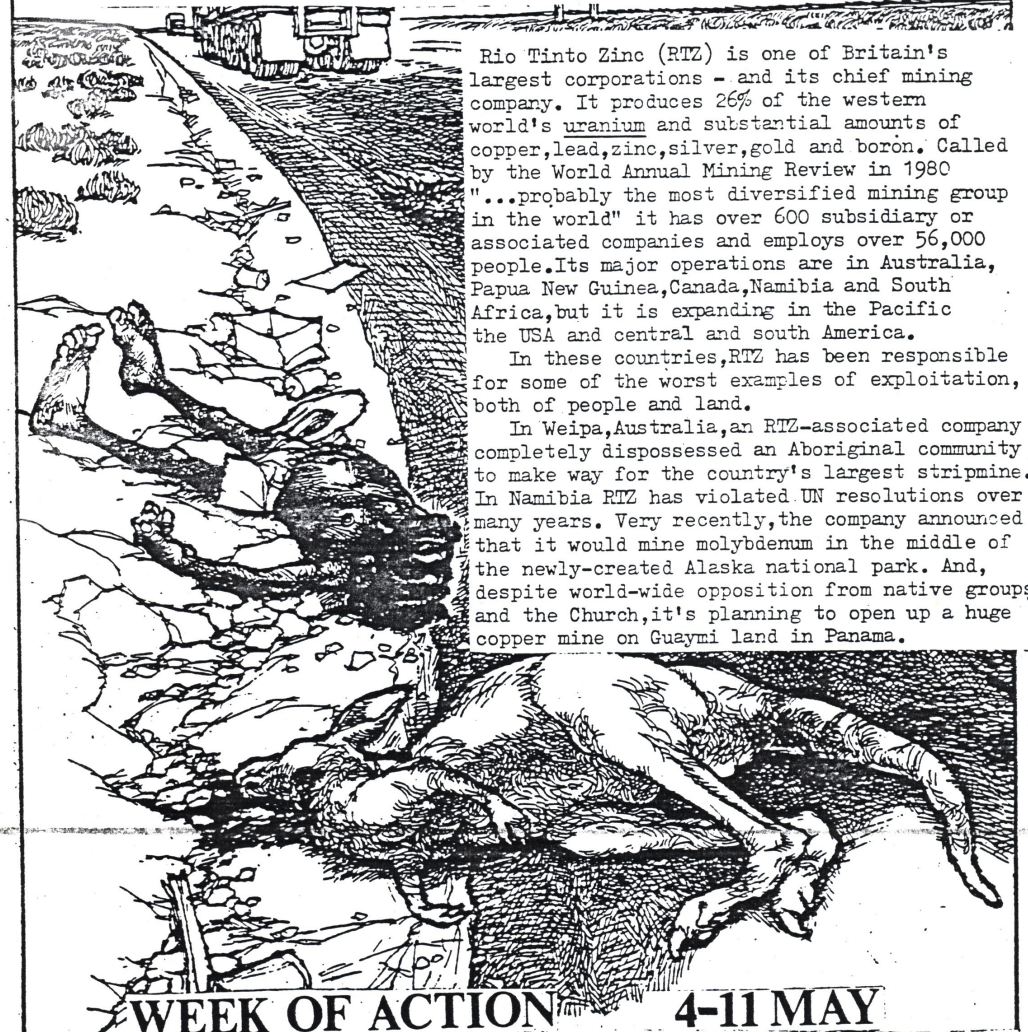
ANDREW PEEL for PARTIZANS  
(Co-ordinating group)



# R.T.Z. UNDERMINES THE WORLD

Multinational corporations (MNCs) are vast, controlling large amounts of capital, labour and resources in many different countries. Some of the largest multinationals have a total turnover which exceeds the gross National product (GNP) of many independent countries.

Their size and nature means they can produce goods in those countries with the lowest wages, weak unions and few safety, health or environmental controls. By trading within their own subsidiaries they can declare profits where taxes are least. They therefore pose a threat to workers and peasant farming communities all over the world.



Rio Tinto Zinc (RTZ) is one of Britain's largest corporations - and its chief mining company. It produces 26% of the western world's uranium and substantial amounts of copper, lead, zinc, silver, gold and boron. Called by the World Annual Mining Review in 1980 "...probably the most diversified mining group in the world" it has over 600 subsidiary or associated companies and employs over 56,000 people. Its major operations are in Australia, Papua New Guinea, Canada, Namibia and South Africa, but it is expanding in the Pacific the USA and central and south America.

In these countries, RTZ has been responsible for some of the worst examples of exploitation, both of people and land.

In Weipa, Australia, an RTZ-associated company completely dispossessed an Aboriginal community to make way for the country's largest stripmine. In Namibia RTZ has violated UN resolutions over many years. Very recently, the company announced that it would mine molybdenum in the middle of the newly-created Alaska national park. And, despite world-wide opposition from native groups and the Church, it's planning to open up a huge copper mine on Guaymí land in Panama.

## WEEK OF ACTION 4-11 MAY

Last summer, women men and children from 26 native nations and 30 other countries met in the Black Hills of South Dakota (USA) to declare a united attack on multinational corporations which "...through their economic and environmental domination, threaten our very survival!"

The WEEK OF ACTION on RTZ derives directly from that gathering. Bringing together many groups affected by RTZ's operations, it will involve local actions, a set of Public Hearings in London, publications and shareholders actions. More details over...

# WEEK OF ACTION AGAINST R.T.Z. 4-11 MAY

THE WEEK OF ACTION is endorsed by:

Survival International,  
War on Want Campaigns  
End Loans to S.Africa  
Shanti (Manchester)  
Greenpeace (London)  
Third World First  
SCRAM (Edinburgh)  
National Peace Council  
Manchester Anti-nuclear group  
Newcastle Namibia Support C.  
Latin American Solidarity  
Committee (Newcastle)  
Welsh anti-nuclear alliance  
North Queensland Land Council  
(Australia)  
Kimberly Land Council (Aus)  
The Beast magazine  
Undercurrents magazine  
Peace News  
Aboriginal Mining Information  
Centre (Melbourne)  
Onaway Trust; Students against Nuclear Energy (SANE)  
Just Books (Belfast); Colonialism & Indigenous Minorities Research/Action  
Peace Pledge Union; Campaign against Foreign Control in New Zealand  
PCAP; Hackney Anti-nuclear group; York Safe Energy Group - and others

Among EVENTS planned for the WEEK OF ACTION ON RTZ are:

- \* PUBLIC HEARINGS, preceded by WORKSHOPS on the company's operations, to be addressed by Australian Aborigines, native Americans and others  
May 9th & 10th at Conway Hall, London WC1
- \* PUBLIC MEETINGS in Edinburgh, Leeds, Brighton, Newcastle, Bristol and Manchester
- \* PICKET of Capper Pass smelter, Hull and other RTZ operations
- \* SURPRISE actions in various places
- \* SUPPORT demonstrations/meetings in Australia, West Germany and New Zealand

## LOCAL ACTION

CONTACT: SCRAM

att. Simon Taylor  
20, Redbrick St,  
Edinburgh 3  
TEL: ED. 7752

For more information, contact:  
PARTIZANS, 218, Liverpool Rd., London N1.  
(Tel: 01 609 1852)



# !PARTIZANS

PEOPLE AGAINST RIO TINTO ZINC AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES c/o 218 Liverpool Road, London N.I.

The WEEK OF ACTION on RTZ was initiated by a transnational action group at the 1980 Survival Gathering in South Dakota (USA). The aim was to initially target multinational corporations involved in nuclear fuel production and the violation of human (including land) rights of third and "fourth" world peoples.

Britain's Rio Tinto Zinc Corporation (RTZ) was unanimously chosen as the international target. It is the world's largest producer of uranium and the largest diversified metals' producer on earth. It has reached this position thanks to a combination of astuteness, government protection and sheer ruthlessness; as evinced by its mining in Namibia, its master-minding of a huge international uranium producers' cartel, its seizure of aboriginal lands in Australasia and its intentions for Panama, Alaska, Brazil and the sea-bed.

The WEEK OF ACTION is only a beginning. It is being organised by groups which, in some cases, have already demonstrated a commitment to analysing and opposing multinational corporative power; in other cases, are now prepared to work on a long-term campaign. Nor is RTZ just being "singled out". A radical analysis of the Rio Tinto Zinc empire must encompass an examination of the relationship between political and financial power (as in the Trilateral Commission, for example); the way in which mnc's move capital for their own benefit around the world, exploit free trade zones and cheap labour; the way in which mnc's sabotage commodity agreements and compound the dependency of "lesser developed" economies.

Climax to the WEEK OF ACTION in London will be a Tribunal, to which victims of RTZ's activities will be invited to present testimony on the corporation's methods, its past impacts and its future threats. Testimony will be heard by a jury of shareholders' representatives -  
- delegated by Universities, trade unions, and churches. RTZ will be invited to answer criticisms and present documentation in rebuttal.

The Tribunal's proceedings will be published - partly as a guide to future shareholders' actions on multinationals.

More than thirty groups are currently committed to the WEEK OF ACTION and - in various ways - to developing its themes on a long-term basis.

## Week Of Action MAY 4-11